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THE TIMES

No. 64,603 SATURDAY MARCH 27 1993 50p

'This is not a Catholic-Protestant issue. It is humanity against inhumanity'





A community's grief: a policewoman weeping yesterday at three-year-old Johnathan Ball's funeral at Grappenhall, Cheshire, and right, pallbearers carrying his coffin into St Wilfrid's church

Revulsion grows as child is buried

By Paul Wilkinson

The funeral of Johnathan Ball at Grappenhall, near Warrington, sent the world the message that human fortitude can triumph over terrorism

A WEEK of violence was laid to rest yesterday amid the tranquillity of spring sunshine and birdsong in an English village.

The funeral of three-year-old Johnathan Ball, killed by an IRA bomb last Saturday as he shopped for a Mother's Day present in Warrington, was a sombre end to acts of terrorism that might yet prove cathartic in the history of Anglo-Irish politics. Mourners heard some of the strongest condemnation yet of the IRA at a funeral that symbolised the new wave of revulsion against the terrorists.

The public emotion that has flowed from Johnathan's death and that of Tim Parry, 12, who died from his injuries on Thursday, has spread far beyond the streets of Warrington where countless flowers mound the place where the two children's lives were destroyed.

Two miles from that spot, along the cobbled street of Johnathan's home village of Grappenhall, his funeral cortege wound its way to the tiny 11th century church of St Wilfrid where Johnathan's family and village friends gathered to mourn his death. Television crews from the United States, Europe and the Far East were there to send back the message that the IRA's rhetoric, which seeks to dignify mass murder as "armed struggle", means spilling the blood of young children over peaceful streets.

The mourners heard scathing condemnation of all terrorism from the Rt Rev Michael Langrish, Bishop of Birkenhead, and saw Johnathan's mother Marie stumble by the hearse bearing away her son's tiny white coffin. Mrs Ball, 37, a Roman Catholic, and her husband Wilfred, 57, a Protestant, had requested a private service, politely turning down offers from the Irish and British governments to send representatives. But the family welcomed Gordon Wilson, the former Ulster businessman appointed as an Irish senator, whose daughter died at the IRA's hands at the Enniskillen Remembrance Day bombing three years ago. After the emotional service, Mr Wilson confirmed that he would be meeting the IRA to plead for an end to the continued fighting. "I mean to say to them that enough is enough. There has got to be another way, a better way." The deaths of the two boys might bring forth new moves to end the conflict. "There is certainly a very strong movement in terms of a peace initiative in Ireland."

A large photograph of the dead boy — the "beautiful angel" so movingly described by his father this week — was placed by the altar shortly before the service began. Johnathan's coffin, topped with a cross of yellow freesias from his parents, was borne into the oak-roofed church by six pallbearers led by Terry Barker, the father of Johnathan's best friend Simon.

Close family and representatives from the emergency services packed the pews. Near the front was Karen Taylor, the off-duty nurse who had cradled Johnathan's broken body as he died in a shop doorway. Also there was PC Mark Toker, shot by gunmen in Warrington three weeks earlier shortly before the town's gasworks was bombed.

In his address, Bishop Langrish spoke of "a little boy brimming with life, overflowing with the enjoyment of life and bringing so much enjoyment to the lives of others. I have a picture of a little boy already with a sharp mind and a canny common sense who, when given the gift of money, would put the pennies in his pocket and the pounds in his money box; a picture of a little boy with a delightful sense of humour and a cheeky sense of fun.

"And I have a picture of a little boy who loved his mum and dad, the parents who longed for him so much, and who was out buying a Mothering Sunday present for mum

Continued on page 3 col 7



Bishop Langrish: "I have a picture of a little boy with a sharp mind and a canny common sense"

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Disaster if guns are not silenced, cardinal says

By Edward Gorman, Ireland Correspondent

THE Roman Catholic primate of all Ireland, Cardinal Cahal Daly, issued a warning yesterday that Northern Ireland faces disaster unless gunmen on both sides accept the futility of their actions and bring the violence to an end.

Cardinal Daly said the murder by the loyalist Ulster Freedom Fighters of five Roman Catholics in two attacks on Thursday had made it one of the blackest days in the province's history.

"I think there are very serious risks being run by both groups of our sliding still further into a yet more appalling situation than we have seen in 23 years," he said. "It is time for people, if they have some sense of reason left, to say this is enough, this is not going anywhere, let us give peace a chance."

The cardinal's comments were echoed by Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary, who said violence from whatever quarter was profoundly evil. He claimed that the division in the province on which violence feeds was steadily being closed, a view at odds with recent demographic surveys demonstrating greater sectarian segregation between the communities than ever before.

Cardinal Daly's appeal underlines the increasingly obvious contrast between the continuing spiral of sectarian murder in Northern Ireland and the beginnings of what could be a new peace movement in the republic, where a big rally will be held in Dublin tomorrow.

The excitement generated by Susan McHugh, the Dublin housewife who has helped to organise the rally, is hardly resonating at all where it really matters, north of the border, especially in the key hardline communities such as west and east Belfast. Few in the north hold out much hope for the meeting which is expected to take place shortly between Gordon Wilson, the Enniskillen shopkeeper who lost his daughter Marie in the Remembrance Day bombing in the town in 1987, with members of the IRA's ruling army council.

The meeting is expected to be held in the republic at a secret location. It is unlikely to be the focus of any police interest given the fact that Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, the republic's justice minister, has given it her guarded backing, describing it as offering a glimmer of hope.

Most observers believe the IRA has no intention of calling a halt to its campaign, however, and may have accepted Mr Wilson's invitation simply to demonstrate that they mean it when they say they are happy to talk to anyone who will listen.

The murders of Catholics in Northern Ireland on Thursday bring to 14 the victims of loyalist violence in the province so far this year, compared to 11 victims of republican groups. The IRA admitted yesterday that one of the four workmen killed by the UFF at Castlerock in Co Londonderry was one of its members, apparently confirming claims by the UFF that it had targeted the leader of the Provisionals in the Maghera area of South Derry.

In political terms loyalists

Continued on page 3, col 7

BA's £80 cut to US sparks fares battle

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

BRITISH Airways yesterday cut fares to America by up to £80 and triggered a new transatlantic air fares war.

The reductions cut the cost of a return ticket to New York from £329 to £259 and Los Angeles is now £329, or 3p a mile. The reductions were matched immediately by BA's main rivals, though they are seething that their yields on the busiest long-haul routes will be reduced still further.

United Airlines, which announced some cuts 24 hours earlier to stimulate growth during the traditionally slack spring months, said: "We fired a shot, but they came back with a hand-grenade." Now United has come into line with BA's new prices.

Most world airlines are losing money heavily, and further cuts can only add to their revenue problems. British Airways, however, maintain that the new fare will give a healthy return, as well as increasing the number of passengers across the Atlantic.

The fares, the best bargains on published fares for more than three years, will apply to all 21 BA Britain-US routes from April 1, including Manchester-Los Angeles and Birmingham-New York, which start tomorrow.

Available on trips involving at least one Saturday-night stay, the return fares are £259 to Atlanta, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington; £309 to Miami and Orlando; £319 to Chicago, Dallas, Detroit and Houston; and £329 to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle. Bookings are available to June 15 for stays of up to 30 days.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin Atlantic, immediately hit back by announcing return fares of £249 to New York and Boston, £299 to Miami and Orlando and £319 to Los Angeles. Virgin is also offering a £199 return on its new service to Newark, which can be booked as a late saver and will be available until the end of April.

But passengers determined to find bargains should ignore all published fares. Many travel agencies buy large numbers of unsold seats from the airlines and sell them on at even lower prices.

Airline Ticket Network, for example, based in Preston, is offering American Airlines return fares to New York between April 6 and May 31 from £228. It also offers New York via Reykjavik for £178.

Weekend Watch, page 8

British summer time starts at 1 am tomorrow and clocks should be put one hour forward. Summer time ends on October 24.

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Socially responsible bodice rippers learn to play it safe

By Alison Roberts, Arts Reporter

"She stared up at him, revelling in the lean, well-honed muscles that had carried his superbly proportioned frame at break-neck speed down the snow-covered mountainsides ... Her eyes dropped nervously ... "I must attend to certain matters, Audrey," he rasped, "before I forget." A moment later he turned round ..."

MILLS & Boon has begun to practise safe sex. Two works from the romantic novel publishers, *A Date with Destiny* and *Knight to the Rescue*, published this year, get to that crucial point, stop, and do the sensible thing.

Without ever mentioning the word "condom", both books by Miranda Lee make clear that the hero is a thoughtful chap and that contraception is only semi-taboo.

Yet Mills & Boon readers still do not want to be confronted with clinical words, like "condom", according to senior editor Tessa Shapcott. Male contraception is discussed only euphemistically (attending to "certain matters") and kept to no more than a line or two.

"If you had a whole page with the hero fumbling to put a condom on, like in real life, it would kill the romance," Ms Shapcott said. HIV and Aids are not mentioned, nor is the risk of pregnancy made obvious.

"The books are there to entertain people and take them away from their problems. There is plenty of information about safe sex out there already. People do still think that there is no sex at all in Mills & Boon. They do have this image of us being for crumbly old spinsters."

But the modern Mills & Boon, which sell about 15 million books a year, is raunchier than its reputation. Mouths are caught in fevered kisses and clothes are roughly ripped. Women have lives beyond the central romance and, now, men ask questions like: "Should we stop at a chemist's on the way? Or shall we be daring and leave matters up to fate?"

Leading article, page 15

Bosnian Serb army agrees to UN truce

By Our Foreign Staff

THE Bosnian Serb army has agreed to a ceasefire from noon tomorrow, the commander of United Nations forces in former Yugoslavia, said in Belgrade last night.

General Lars-Erik Wahlgren made the announcement after discussions with General Ratko Mladic, the head of the Bosnian Serb army. United Nations officials pointed out that Bosnia's Muslims and Croats had not yet agreed to the ceasefire.

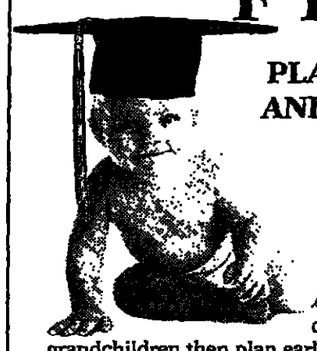
Lord Owen said at the same time, however, that the Serbs must be told clearly that international sanctions against the rump state of Yugoslavia would be withdrawn if the peace plan for Bosnia was implemented.

Diplomats believe that the Bosnian Serb strategy is to try to lure the United Nations into policing the front line while a ceasefire takes effect and peace talks go on. This would freeze the current situation on the ground, and the United Nations would thus be left guarding the frontiers of a greater Serbian state.

In an interview in New York with *The Times*, Lord Owen, the European Community mediator, made clear that he expected a move "within days" to force the Bosnian Serbs to sign the peace package he has drafted with Cyrus Vance, the former US secretary of state. The Bosnian Muslim and Bosnian Croat leaderships have signed the agreement.

Stick and carrot, page 11

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Welsh firebomber jailed for 12 years

The man responsible for a Welsh firebomb campaign was jailed for 12 years by Caernarvon Crown Court yesterday. Sion Roberts, 21, a machine operator, of Llangefni, Anglesey, sent explosive devices to Sir Wyn Roberts, the Welsh Office minister, a Tory agent and two senior policemen.

Mr Justice Pill told Roberts that what he did was "nasty and brutish". Roberts, described in court as "a foot soldier but not the organiser", was convicted earlier this month of possessing and sending explosives with intent to endanger life. Two other men were cleared of conspiracy.

During the eight-week trial, MI5 agents gave evidence that they had twice broken into Roberts's flat to plant bugging devices. The conviction was a rare success for the police in their efforts to track down members of the shadowy Meibion Glyndwr (Sons of Glendower).

Fisherman found dead

Coastguards searching for two fishermen whose boat capsized off Skegness, Lincolnshire, yesterday found the body of Anthony Barry Pryor, 29. The hunt for the boat's owner, David William Keal, who was married on Wednesday, was continuing, but searchers held out little hope. Meanwhile, the search continued for Tony Mapplebreck, in his 30s, skipper of the Whitby-registered trawler Heritage, and crewman Shaun Rowley, 21, after their boat was found on the seabed.

£10m gold fraud broken

Customs investigators yesterday claimed to have broken a VAT gold fraud involving £10 million in lost taxes and 60 tons of bullion. After a nine-month investigation a car with 36 kilograms of gold was stopped in Dover. Another 5kg was discovered at Heathrow as 25 people were arrested around the country. Customs sources said the gold was bought in Belgium, where purchases carry 1 per cent VAT, and sold in Britain with 17.5 per cent VAT, which was siphoned off through dummy companies and false invoices.

Labour loses third seat

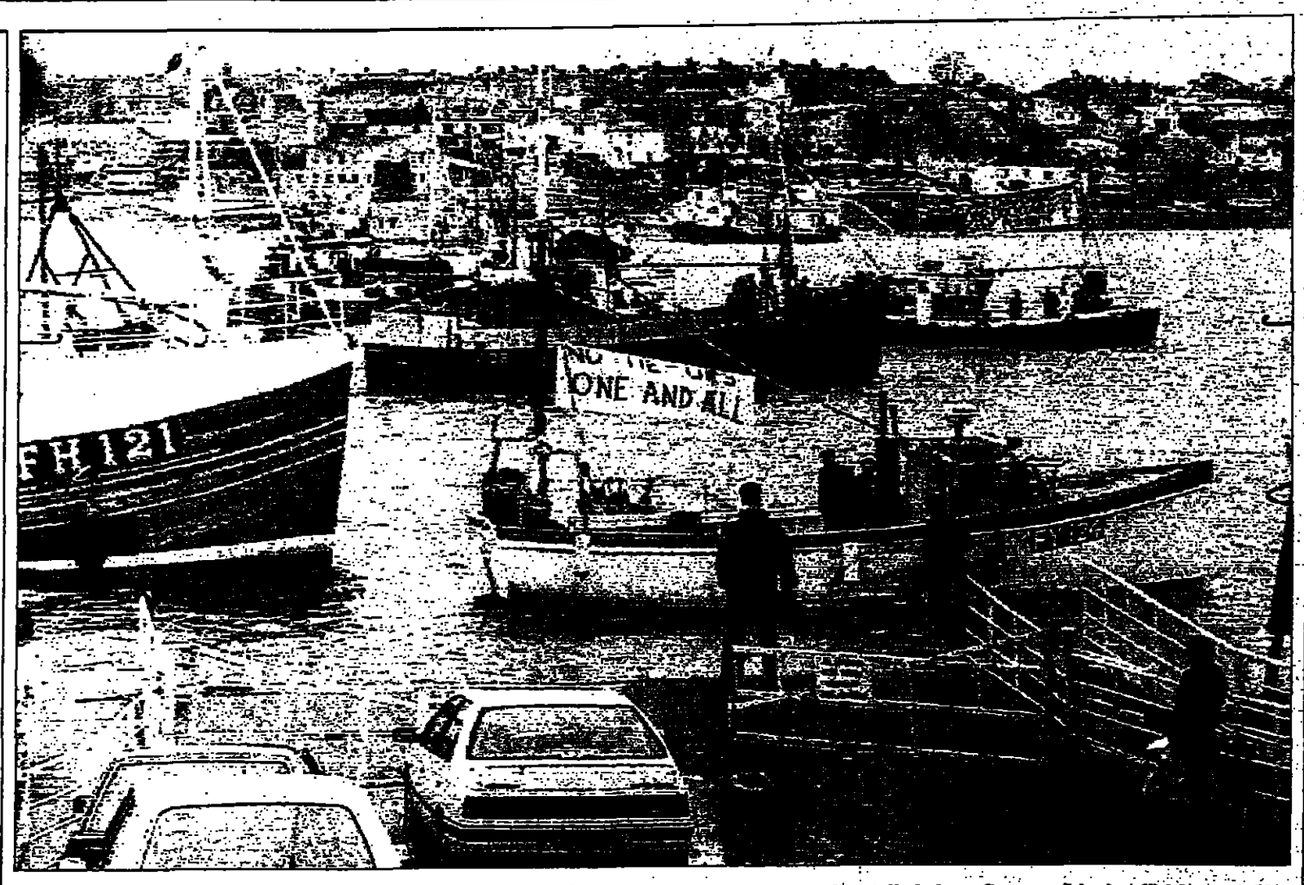
Labour has suffered a 37 per cent swing to lose its third Lambeth council seat to the Liberal Democrats in as many months. Sally Prentice took the Bishops ward seat in Vauxhall in a by-election on Thursday, attracting 52 per cent of the vote to Labour's 26 per cent. The election reduces Labour's majority on the council to 11. Its vote was just over double that for the Militant Labour candidate. Labour lost seats in wards in Brixton and Stockwell in by-elections earlier this month and in December.

BP cuts petrol prices

BP is cutting its maximum pump price for petrol by 6p a gallon (1.3p a litre) from Monday. The maximum price for four star will drop to 254.1p a gallon (55.9p a litre) and standard unleaded to 231.4p (50.9p). The strengthening of the pound against the dollar allowed the price cut, the company said yesterday.

Thatcher family grows

Baroness Thatcher has become a grandmother for the second time with the birth on Thursday of a daughter to her daughter-in-law, Diane, in Dallas, Texas. She is the second child of Mark and Diane Thatcher. Their first, Michael, is four. The weight and name of the baby has not yet been announced but mother and daughter are reported to be well.



Plymouth armada: fishing boats block the passage of a car ferry across the river Tamar during a blockade by 150 fishing vessels of Plymouth harbour, Devon, from dawn to dusk yesterday. It was the biggest protest so far against government policies, which the trawlermen say are threatening their livelihoods (Michael Hornsby writes).

Two Royal Navy frigates and two fleet auxiliary tankers were forced to wait offshore and a cross-Channel ferry had to divert to Poole, Dorset.

In Truro, Cornwall, fishermen dumped a ton of rotting cod and mackerel outside the agriculture ministry's office.

After a smaller blockade of Teesport, Cleveland, on Monday, the fishermen switched the target of their attack from cheap fish imports to the government's plans to limit the number of days trawlers can spend at sea and its curbs on grants to decommission surplus boats.

Richard Banks, the chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, said: "We have offered to discuss alternative fish conservation measures but the government will not listen."

Off the Channel Islands, two Guernsey fisheries officials were held on a French fishing boat after they challenged it in island waters, the Foreign Office said last night. An official said that once they were on board the captain "made off with them".

The French Ministry of Sea said it would send a launch to intercept the fishing boat, thought to be heading for Carteret, Normandy.

Prince tells EC farm chiefs to learn from the crofters

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales attacked EC agricultural policy yesterday, telling an audience of Scottish crofters that Brussels could learn from farming in the north of Scotland.

Addressing the Scottish Crofters Union Conference at Stornoway, the prince criticised the principle of set-aside to reduce "embarrassing problems" of over-production. Set-aside in America had failed to achieve a significant cut in overall production and it was "hard to see why the European experience should be expected to be different".

Some 1,482,600 acres of UK land would be set aside this year, he said, with an estimated loss of over 4,500 farming jobs. The result was that remaining land was more intensely farmed, leading to no drop in production, minimal environmental benefits, a negative impact on landscape, and the stigmatisation of farmers who were perceived as being "paid to do nothing".

"In sharp contrast, non-intensive farming systems such as crofting and organic farming deliver a level of production which meets the aims of the policy makers while maintaining an attractive diverse landscape, providing considerable environmental benefits and maintaining rural employment," the prince said.

The prince advocated use of seaweed as fertiliser, the payment of premiums for late-cut hay and silage to ensure the survival of corncrakes, and the reintroduction of the Marginal Cropping Grant to redress the balance between cattle and sheep, and to maintain diversity of flora and fauna.

The crofters' system of combining part-time farming with another job was praised by the prince, who said that part-time work might become more common. He declared it in line with present EC policy. "Crofting provides a model which many other rural communities throughout the world would do well to emulate," he said.

He urged Highlands and Islands Enterprise to use its EC funding for occupations such as "crofting, fishing and Harris tweed making", rather than high-profile infrastructure projects, "which make the islands marginally less inaccessible, but, in the process, sacrifice part of what makes the area so special".

Even without the entourage of uniformed adjutants and local dignitaries, the prince would have stuck out among the crofting crowd yesterday. He was the only one sporting a sun tan and a kilt.

The prince said he became interested in crofting while considering how the Duchy of Cornwall could best help its tenants to face an increasingly uncertain future. "I felt that the concept of part-time farming might conceivably have a role," he said. The prince praised crofting's social values as a way to keep communities together. "I happen to believe that many communities in rural areas are among the last bastions of truly civilised values," he said.

☐ A three-year aid package of £31 million to promote organic farming, improve public access to the countryside and recreate wildlife habitats on uncropped land was unveiled yesterday by John Gummer, agriculture minister.

Clarke plan to measure reoffending

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE home secretary is considering the use of league tables of reoffending rates to see which prison regimes obtain the best rehabilitation results.

Mr Kenneth Clarke told a meeting of prison reformers in London that included Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice, that he thought it would be helpful for the prison service to measure reoffending rates of ex-prisoners "as it would be rather interesting to compare different regimes". Mr Clarke said he suspected that more civilised prison regimes produced lower reoffending rates.

Penal reform groups welcomed the move. They believe it will increase pressure for the government to consider alternatives to custody.

Paul Cavadino, of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said that more than half of prisoners were reconvicted within two years of leaving prison. For juveniles held in prison service custody the figure was between 70 and 80 per cent. Publication of reoffending rates would show that prison does not rehabilitate offenders, he said.

Militants to bus in pickets at Timex

BY A STAFF REPORTER

MILITANTS yesterday set the stage for renewed mass picketing at the Timex plant in Dundee as the dispute over dismissals enters its ninth week. Scottish Militant Labour, rejecting accusations by MPs and others of outside "rent-a-mob" tactics, said that it planned to bus in supporters to join the picket line on Monday and appealed to other groups to follow suit.

Tommy Sheridan, convener of Scottish Militant Labour, who was one of 16 arrested on Monday during clashes at the factory gates, said he would be in Dundee but not at the picket line. Last Tuesday, he appeared in court accused of breach of the peace and was ordered not to go within a mile of the plant.

Monday's clashes, the worst picket-line disorder in Britain since the 1980s, erupted when 400 protesters massed at the gates as buses carrying newly recruited workers tried to enter, and eventually succeeded.

The dispute began when 340 workers were dismissed, to be replaced by almost 200 recruits, mainly from towns of high unemployment around Dundee.

At a news conference in Glasgow yesterday, Scottish Militant Labour claimed justification for its action. It cited a written message from John Kydd, a sacked Timex union convener, appealing for trade unionists, political parties "and any individuals the length of breadth of Britain" to support the weekly Monday picket. Mr Kydd's message said that all those arrested in this week's clashes had been invited by the strike committee to take part. "We wish them well," he said.

Mr Sheridan, who rose to national prominence in the anti-poll tax campaign, said: "As far as we are concerned, the only ousiders in this dispute are Peter Hall [Timex's UK president] and the scabs that he has been bringing into the factory every single day to steal the jobs of 340 workers." The workers, some with 30 years' service, had been dismissed with no redundancy pay and had had the factory doors "slammed in their faces" he said.

Mr Sheridan accused the Scottish TUC of standing idly by and challenged it to stage a one-day general strike to bring Scotland to a "standstill" over the issues of employment conditions that the Timex dispute had thrown up.

Petition copy in The Times

WITH the latest MORI poll showing that 73 per cent of Britain's voters want a referendum on the Maastricht Treaty, *The Times* publishes on Monday a copy of a petition prepared by MARC, the all-party campaign calling for the government to let the electorate decide on ratification.

MARC wants to collect at least two million signatures by next weekend, with the aim of being able to present the petition to the Commons on the following Monday. Publication of the form in a number of newspapers has been the only possible way of distributing sufficient forms quickly enough. This method of distributing a petition has not been used before, but it has been cleared by the Clerk of Journals as acceptable.

The petition is accompanied by a commentary from Peter Riddell, *The Times* political editor, explaining the history of petitions in Britain.

Howard calls for unity over EC

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR cabinet Eurosceptic last night called on the Conservative party to unite over Europe by seizing the agenda for its development after Maastricht.

Michael Howard, the environment secretary, made the plea after Sir Edward Heath accused Baroness Thatcher of inciting the Eurorebels and told John Major that he was too nice in his dealings with the right. Mr Howard, one of the four main sceptics in the cabinet, called for a Europe made in Britain's image.

It was the latest in a series of high-level attempts to heal party wounds and all the more significant because it came from the right. Mr Howard appeared to be telling the sceptics to accept that the Maastricht battle was over and instead to concentrate on future EC development before the next inter-governmental conference in 1996.

He told the Conservative association annual meeting in his Folkestone and Hythe constituency that as the prospect of Maastricht ratification moved closer the Tories were "visibly pulling together" on Europe.

"Resisting federalism is essential but it is not enough. The next few years will present us with a tremendous opportunity to create a European Community in our own image," he said.

Mr Howard's speech was another sign of the cabinet's impatience to get the Maastricht battle behind it.



Howard: an attempt to patch the party's rift

Cook launches last-ditch appeal to save pits

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A NATIONWIDE appeal to save the threatened coal pits was launched by the Labour leadership yesterday as John Major mobilised the cabinet to sell Michael Heseltine's rescue programme.

Constituents in Conservative seats were urged by Robin Cook, the shadow trade and industry secretary, to spend the weekend lobbying their MPs in an attempt to influence the vote on the closures at 10pm on Monday.

"The rigged market will not save the pits, but full mailbags of Tory MPs might," he said. "Constituents who want to save coal must write, phone or visit their MP by Monday. Nothing has changed since last October and nothing should dampen the fire of protest that beat back the government last October."

There had been too much comment on whether Mr Heseltine, the President of the Board of Trade, had saved his own job, Mr Cook said. The public should know he had not done enough to save a single miner's job.

Mr Major and other ministers called on miners to increase their productivity if they wanted to secure their future, and backed Mr Heseltine's programme to reprieve 13 pits and mothball six others as fair and sensible. The prime minister said there had been a "very dramatic" increase in productivity in many of the pits over the past few months and if this had happened a few years ago the situation might have been different.

Mr Major, speaking in Rochester, Kent, said it was very encouraging to see an increase in productivity "because it does continue to reinforce the prospects for more sales in the future and of better prospects for those pits".

Mr Heseltine said: "I have told Neil Clarke, the British Coal chairman, 'Get on with it'. What I have done is to give British Coal the knowledge that they can go out into the market place and negotiate for additional contracts." But he told the BBC: "What I cannot do is sign the contracts to buy coal."

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, told his Kingston-upon-Thames association: "There are no easy answers to the difficult problems caused by the fall in demand for British coal. Michael Heseltine's approach strikes a fair balance between giving more mines an extra chance to compete and protecting taxpayers."

Mr Cook said: "The white paper applies a bright cover to a dossier of failure. We have three days in which to mobilise pressure on Tory MPs."

☐ At least three private mining groups are expected to bid for some of the 12 pits to be offered for sale. Meanwhile, miners preparing for a one-day strike next Friday appealed to other trade unionists to take industrial action. Rail workers also plan a stoppage on April 2.

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America shares tears and outrage as the parents of Johnathan Ball bury their murdered child

IRA lobby is silent amid US anger over Warrington

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AMERICA'S vocal pro-IRA lobby has been conspicuously silent over the last few days. Telephone calls to Noraid, the US support group for Catholics in Northern Ireland, have been left unanswered as the upsurge of anger and sadness over the death of the young bomb victims in Warrington has filtered through to many Americans, including the 40 million of Irish extraction.

Last Saturday's attack in Warrington received scant attention in the US media, but the mass demonstrations in Dublin, the hostile reaction to the IRA campaign by Catholics in Ulster and the funeral yesterday of three-year-old Johnathan Ball have been extensively reported.

The New York Times reported: "The IRA seems to attack more and more ordinary citizens ... and people appear to accept them with resigned fatalism.'

> 'We are obviously revolted by Warrington'

However, the news and television reports from Britain and Ireland show that, far from reacting with fatalism to the latest bombings, people on both sides of the Irish sea have openly and roundly expressed their revulsion at the continuing carnage caused by the IRA and the Protestant paramilitary violence in Ulster.

Despite the fact that the murders and bloody violence in Northern Ireland and on the British mainland have little place in the self-image of most Irish-Americans, a hard core of IRA sympathisers remains.

A telephone call to the offices of *The Irish People*, the pro-IRA newspaper published in New York, to gain an official response to the bombing in Warrington produced this unmistakable and angry response from a woman who did not give her name: "Why don't you want to talk about the six innocent Catholics who have been murdered in the last few days?"

Debbie McGoldrick, senior editor at the weekly *Irish Voice*, probably more accurately reflects the feelings of most Irish-Americans. "We are obviously revolted about what happened in Warrington. We don't condone that. We're totally outraged." Most of her readers, she said, were feeling the same sort of grief as the ordinary people of Ireland.

Ms McGoldrick said that although her own newspaper regularly covered such atrocities, the deaths of children in Warrington had prompted the mainstream US media to cover the aftermath of the bombing more fully.

In Washington, Thomas Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, said: "These villainous attacks are a grim and signal lesson to anyone who, through financial or other assistance, supports groups and organisations supplying the wherewithal to perpetrate the terrorist's cowardly, despicable attacks against humanity."

Mr Foley, who is of Irish descent, also called on the groups in Northern Ireland which condemned the use of violence to respond positively to an appeal by Dick Spring, the Irish deputy prime minister and Sir Patrick Mayhew, Northern Ireland secretary, to resume political talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

The FBI claims that since the Warrington bombing, the "core group" of those responsible for the attack on the World Trade Centre in New York have been arrested, leaving some Americans with mixed emotions about the terrorism taking place across the Atlantic.

"People look at the bombing here and see the culprits rounded up," said a source at FBI headquarters in New York, who requested anonymity, "then they look at the situation in Northern Ireland and ask why it has been going on for so long. It's not logical, but that the way people sometimes think."

In New York yesterday, politicians and others were celebrating the capture of the men accused of the World Trade Centre bombing with triumphant rhetoric, and Roger Hayes, the acting US attorney-general, spoke of defeating those who had "struck with thundering violence at a public office building".

But while the American authorities are basking in the apparently successful FBI investigation, the psychological damage wrought by the largest ever terrorist attack on American soil should not be underestimated. Hitherto largely immune to international terrorism, the deaths of five people and the injuring of more than 1,000 in the attack has left Americans feeling newly vulnerable.

> 'Suddenly terrorism is not just a foreign fact of life'

This may explain why, albeit belatedly, American reactions to the Warrington bombing have taken on a new, perhaps more understanding, edge. Northern Ireland has long been a platform for Irish-Americans and others to posture on, but suddenly terrorism has become a threat at home, and no longer just a sad, but essentially foreign, fact of life.



Grieving parents: Wilf and Marie Ball leaving the church yesterday after the funeral of Johnathan



Terror victim: Johnathan, 3, killed by IRA bomb

'Silence guns' appeal

Continued from page 1

are using violence to try to stop what they see as the steady drift of Northern Ireland out of the United Kingdom. Roy Magee, a Presbyterian minister from Dundonald, outside Belfast, who has held talks with the Ulster Defence Association intermittently over the past few months, said yesterday of the new leaders of that organisation: "They are relatively young men who are thinking men on the whole — they are not morons by any manner of means — and men who have a great deal of determination."

John Major said yesterday more people of Northern Ireland now want peace. During a tour of Kent, the prime minister said: "What I think we are seeing, and it has been very dramatically demonstrated after the events of the last few days, is the intense revulsion that does exist right across the spectrum in the United Kingdom, in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, against the activities of the terrorists."

Last night the Prince of Wales flew into Northern Ireland for a private visit to the security forces.

FBI agent tells of bomb plot

A PLOT by the IRA to obtain sophisticated technology for shooting down helicopters was discovered during an undercover FBI operation into IRA activity in America, a Dublin court was told yesterday.

Frank Schulte, an FBI special agent, said that diagrams "to be used for bomb-making applications" and other material, including photocopies of microchips or micro circuit boards and catalogues of radar guns, were found in the luggage of Peter Maguire, who is wanted on three US warrants. Mr Schulte was giving evidence during an application at Dublin District Court to extradite Mr Maguire, 56, a native of co. Monaghan with an address at Clondalkin, co. Dublin.

Mr Maguire, an airline electronics engineer and a father of two, is wanted on warrants alleging conspiracy to export weapons without a licence, conspiracy to destroy helicopters belonging to the British government and possessing property in aid of foreign insurgents.

He was arrested by Irish police at his Dublin home in February after returning from South Africa, where he had successfully contested an attempt by the American authorities to extradite him.

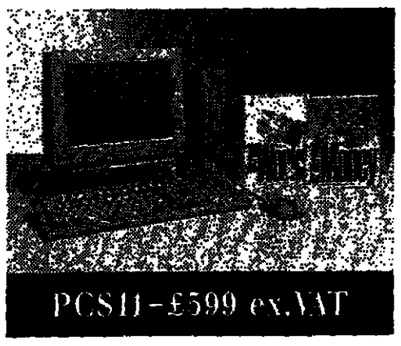
Mr Schulte told Judge Peter Smithwick that he had been involved in surveillance in 1989 on Mr Maguire. The case continues on Friday.



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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Mr Cool — Clint Eastwood

'You know that real easy slow walk . . ? You have to run to keep up with it. When he swings across the street, heads swivel.



We are halfway across when a Chevvy slides into the back of a pick-up with a thump and a tinkle. Clint Eastwood keeps wincing straight into the sunshine and movin' on . . .'

On the eve of the Oscars ceremony, Georgina Howell meets Clint Eastwood whose film Unforgiven has nine nominations — in The Sunday Times Magazine tomorrow

Revulsion grows at boy victim's funeral

Continued from page 1

when his life was so wickedly cut short." He turned to "the inescapable question": why? "What happened in Warrington was the deliberate and evil act of callous and utterly selfish women and men. The answer to the 'For what?' is simply 'Nothing'. There is no possible moral, political or military justification for the deaths and injuries which have been caused in this place this week.

"There is merely the desperate and morally bankrupt act of people who unable or unwilling to carry their argument by reason, persuasion or legitimate democratic means, will use even the most innocent of human lives in order to terrorise and to shock.

"Those who place bombs and then express regret at the outcome are liars. They are liars to the world, and if they really believe they have no responsibility, they are liars to themselves."

The incident had captured the attention of the world. "It is a tragedy that has touched a nation. It is a tragedy that has focused for us so many other innocent deaths, men, women and children, killed and maimed in the name of republicanism, Loyalism, Irish unity or Ulster freedom. This is not a Catholic-Protestant issue. It is an issue of humanity against inhumanity."

There was condemnation for those who support the terrorists. "Enough is enough. It is time to lay down your arms. How many more children and families must suffer before this wickedness comes to an end? I pray that those words will be heard not only in this land, but across the Irish sea and very definitely across the Atlantic as well, not only by those who carry out these murderous deeds but those who comfort and supply them as well."

There were two hymns: *Abide With Me* and *The King Of Love My Shepherd Is*. The 30-minute service closed with a recording of the pop song "Ben", sung by Michael Jackson, a ballad of a young boy's love for his best friend.

Silence descended as the brass-handled coffin was loaded into the second of two flower-crammed hearses. The little boy's last journey to a hillside cemetery two miles away was surrounded by floral images of his own brief life. There was a red chrysanthemum toy car, a cream steam engine and a small white chrysanthemum chair like one he had in his nursery.

Just a few immediate family and friends watched as the small white box was lowered into a plot overlooking the town.

Simon Jenkins, page 14
Leading article, page 15



Success won't be a flash in the pan. Once you apply Scotts, your lawn will be moss free for months.

Scotts also tackles another wee problem: keeping your grass green.

"Oh good grief, it's throwing it down again."

If there's one thing we British love to moan about it's the weather. Mind you, it's hardly surprising. On average 32 inches of rain fall on Britain every year.

This is good news for umbrella manufacturers, but not always such good news for gardeners.

For although wet weather encourages the growth of grass and plants, it also encourages the growth of moss. Especially on those areas of your lawn that are poorly drained.

So what can you do to relieve yourself of moss? Spend a penny under £9 of course.

For this you'll get a bag of Moss Control plus Lawn Fertiliser from O.M. Scott & Sons, who for over 20 years have been making sure America's backyards have seen the back of moss.

Indeed, only 4 weeks after applying Scotts, your lawn should be free of this troublesome weed.

And it's all thanks to Scotts exclusive Trionised process, which ensures each particle of Moss Control plus Lawn Fertiliser sticks to the moss.

In a matter of days the moss will then turn black, leaving you with grass that will turn your neighbours green. Because once Scotts has made short work of your moss, it quickly goes to work to improve the thickness as well as the colour of your lawn.

It does this by providing the essential nitrogen your grass needs to flourish. More importantly, at a rate at which it can easily be digested. This means that with regular feeding you'll have green grass that will remain evergreen.

The same unfortunately cannot be said of the other available fertilisers. Most of which are of the fast release variety, meaning your grass gets more food than it is able to digest at any one time.

And while this may make your grass appear a lot greener in the short term, the green will disappear almost as quickly as it first appeared.

Unlike these other fertilisers, another advantage of Scotts is that it will continue to feed your lawn for months after you first apply it.

But to be sure you've seen the last of your moss, the best time to apply Scotts is during Winter, Spring or Autumn. And we suggest you spread it on a moist lawn, where tall grass has been cut to expose the low-growing moss.

Not surprisingly, by now you are probably dying to go to the garden centre.

If, however, you have any difficulty finding a bag of Scotts Moss Control plus Lawn Fertiliser you could always, dare we say it, give us a tinkle on 0543 450066.



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Businessmen convicted of bribes plot for BP secrets

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO businessmen who bribed senior BP staff to gain details of multi-million-pound contracts and then made a fortune selling the information to prospective bidders were convicted of fraud yesterday by Southwark Crown Court.

Josef Szrajber, 71, a former commissioning agent, of Mayfair, and Paolo Sorelli, 54, of Bayswater, west London, were found guilty of seven charges of conspiracy to defraud BP between June 1988 and August 1990. They will be sentenced next month and could face the seizure of assets.

In a two-month trial, the court was told the pair worked as middlemen and were responsible for helping mainly German and Japanese companies net £100 million in work often covering North Sea engineering projects. Working on a commission basis, they netted £1.7 million, although they would have received nearly £3 million if they had not been arrested.

Yesterday, Judge Pearlman was told the trial was one in a series mounted by the Serious Fraud Office against "information brokers" working within the oil industry. Detectives have interviewed a number of senior BP officers in the company's procurements department, but no decision has yet been made on charges.

The investigation began after Szrajber was caught on a police tape recording trying to bribe an employee of Exxon Chemicals. Last year, he received a nine-month sentence suspended for two years and was fined £5,000.

In the BP case, he offered corrupt employees a third of the commission he and Sorelli would receive as the bait for confidential information needed to seal a contract. The court was told that the contracts involved ranged from £625,000 to £50 million. During the trial, Stephen Batten QC, for the prosecution, told the court that "good old fashioned sell-your-employer-down-the-river-for-large-handfuls-of-silver corruption" was at the heart of the case.

BP would put out contracts for tender, but the two men were able to tip off clients on how to price their offers.

Mr Batten said: "Where there is an awful lot of brass there is sometimes muck. Muck in the sense of disloyalty, greed and corruption." It might be that BP employees had access to information because of their role in awarding contracts or it might have been filched from the desk of a colleague or from a filing cabinet. "Either way this information was coming from the very centre of BP."

Szrajber dealt with the companies buying the inside information, while Sorelli was the "principal party" of the pair, staying in the shadows and building up his contacts within BP. Szrajber kept records of his negotiations and referred to his BP insider as "Mr X".

The pair were able to claim between 2 and 3 per cent of the contract price as commission on a successfuly awarded contract.

The court was told the importance of Mr X could be gauged by the fact that he received half of a £45,000 commission for a £1.5 million contract. The rest was split between the two defendants and another individual.

The companies which financed the corruption were well-known firms. In one company, the man providing the money for the two men to bribe BP employees received a kickback himself.

Yesterday, BP refused to confirm whether any staff had been sacked as a result of the case, but the company has launched an internal enquiry.

Reporter hands out copies of banned article that castigates management

MICHAEL POWELL



Paul Foot is offered sick leave

PAUL Foot, the award-winning *Daily Mirror* reporter, was offered extended sick leave last night after defying his editor by handing out copies of his column, which had been banned from the paper (Alexandra Frean writes).

David Banks, editor of the *Mirror*, said that his star columnist appeared to be stressed and overworked and clearly needed a break. "We sincerely hope that he seeks professional help during this time and that MGN will continue to pay his £55,000 salary."

Speaking from his office last night, Mr Foot said that stories of his demise had been greatly exaggerated. "It would be very nice to be sent home on full pay. But the truth is, there is nothing wrong with me."

Earlier, he had taken to the streets outside the newspaper's headquarters handing out copies of the column, in which he criticised the *Mirror* management.

Transplant girl is off respirator

BY A STAFF REPORTER

Laura Davies, the four-year-old girl whose spleen has been removed following a bowel and liver transplant last year, was yesterday "critical but stable" in a children's hospital in America.

A spokeswoman at the hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, said that Laura had been taken off a respirator and was breathing on her own, but that she would remain in intensive care.

Doctors said the four-hour operation was necessary because the girl's spleen had become enlarged and was affecting her immune system.

Laura, from Eccles, Greater Manchester, who will be five on April 1, will be able to survive without her spleen but will need to take antibiotics for the rest of her life.



Laura: remaining in intensive care

School to review security

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

GOVERNORS at a south London school where a 13-year-old pupil allegedly raped a teacher are likely to discuss the introduction of security guards and classroom panic buttons for staff at an emergency meeting next week.

Southwark council has agreed to install a £20,000 closed-circuit system of security cameras at the comprehensive and is reviewing safety guidelines for staff.

The incident is said to have happened eight days ago and involved the boy, another pupil aged 14, and a supply teacher in her 20s. Both boys, who have been bailed, are remaining at home while detectives investigate the case.

Det Chief Insp Brian Morris, leading the police enquiry, said the allegations were very serious. A decision whether to bring charges against the two boys was "weeks away".

Bob Skelly, a governor at the school for four years, said that additional security measures, including panic buttons, would probably be raised by governors next week.

The school feared that the allegations could sound its deathknell, he said: "It could turn out to be a disaster which would be totally undeserved. This is a popular school among parents and numbers have almost doubled to 800 in three years."

Abbey gardens win

BY JOHN SHAW

THE 30 acres of gardens at Forde Abbey, Dorset, were named Garden of the Year in London yesterday. They provide a changing spectacle throughout the seasons and attracted 33,500 visitors last year.

Forde, established by Cistercian monks in the 12th century, is the first garden in the county to win the award, presented by Christie's in conjunction with the Historic Houses Association. A commemorative plaque will be presented to Mark Roper, the owner, on May 13.

The gardens trace the history of the foundation. Ponds and waterways dug by the monks have been restored and part of the design dating from 1710 remains. The bog garden and rock garden were laid out in the 20th century. Mr Roper said that the yew and lime trees were 300 years old and other species were planted when his family bought the house in the mid-19th century. The woods include redwood trees from California and a rare incense cedar from northwest America.

The association represents 1,400 privately owned historic houses, parks and gardens. Forde's gardens are open daily throughout the year from 10am to 4.30pm. The abbey is open from April 1 to the end of October on Wednesdays, Sundays and bank holidays from 1pm to 4.30pm.

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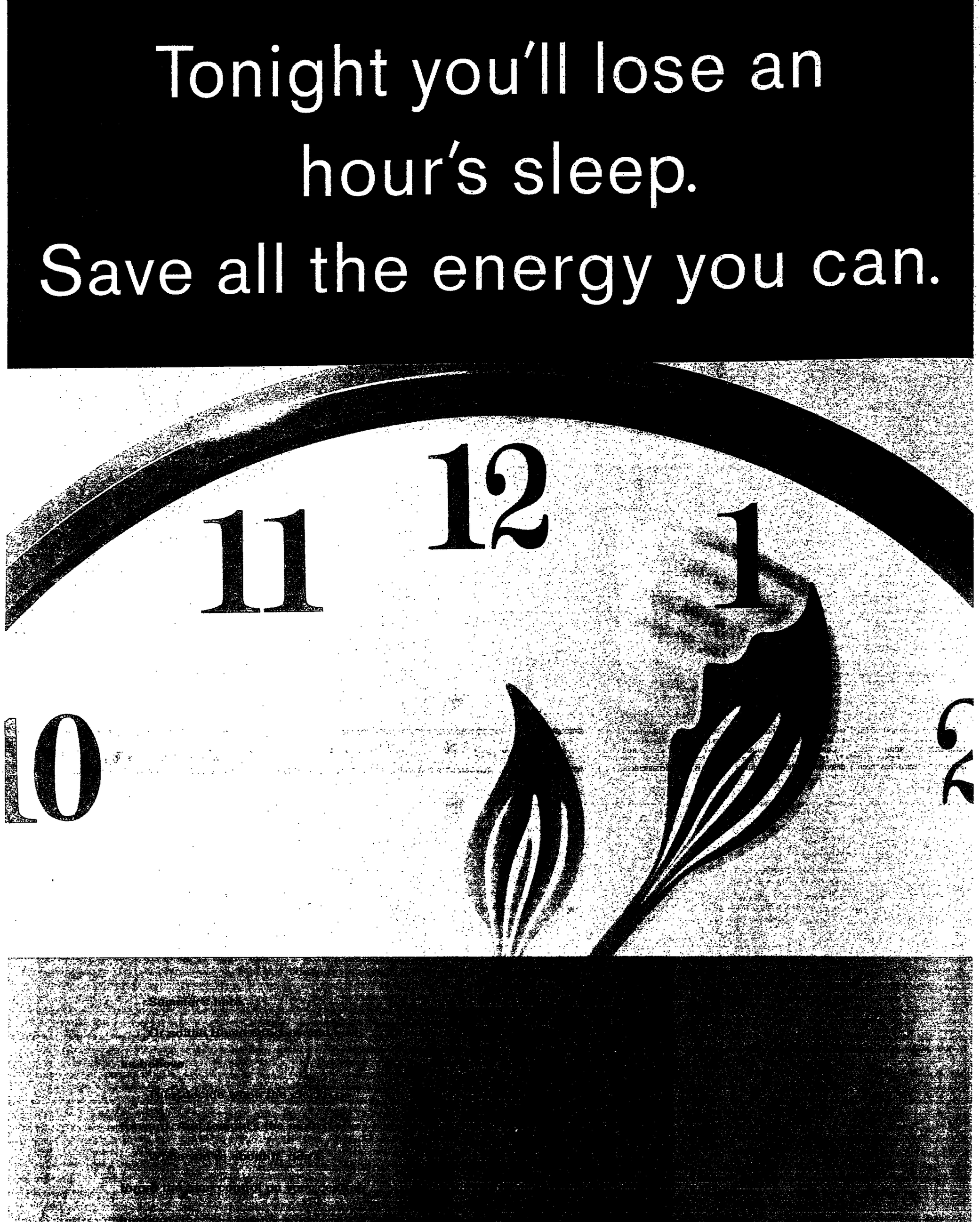
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Miller condemns screen violence

By Alison Roberts
Arts Reporter

THE American playwright Arthur Miller yesterday added his weighty voice to the debate on screen violence, condemning some scenes on television and in films as "conscienceless, unfeeling and automatic.

"I cannot help believing that it is having an effect upon the behaviour of children," Miller told a news conference marking the transfer of his new play, *The Last Yankee*, from the Young Vic to the West End. He joins the growing body of actors and writers, including Sir Anthony Hopkins, Michael Caine and Clint Eastwood, who have recently linked popular screen culture with violence.

Miller said that some films contained "unbelievable" violence, but censorship was not the answer. Instead, concerned viewers should write to "the sponsors of these things and say that they are disgusted with them".

Miller said that recent "shocking" events in Britain happened daily in America, particularly in New York, where he was born in October 1915. He went on: "That is not to downplay the disintegration of British society. I think it is an unravelling of the social fabric, if you want to use that cliché. In that respect, you in Britain are probably at the beginning of it. In America, we are in the middle."

Looking a young 77, Miller told of a German psychiatrist whom he had met 30 years ago who had predicted that television would "consume society" and "lead generally to the destruction of the democratic culture". The German had thought that television and film would create an atmosphere in which the moral force of government would no longer be respected. Miller said: "I am not sure that we have got that far, but I cannot believe that this stuff is not having an effect, on kids especially."

Children would always seek heroes, Miller said. As a child, he had idolised cowboys; when he was scared, he would remember their bravery. Now there were no "good guys" in popular culture and the equivalent, often violent, heroes were created "in some studio by people who are becoming millionaires at it".

The playwright, one of the leading theatrical figures of the 20th century, is well-known for his anti-censorship stance. He is in London to see the Young Vic production of his play, and will speak at a conference being held today by the English Centre of International PEN, the association of writers that campaigns for free speech.

Films should not be more strictly censored because that would be the thin end of the wedge, Miller said yesterday. "That is why we are in a dilemma, but it doesn't mean that you have to stand still," he said. "There are other ways to express your discontent so that the money made from these things is a little less."

The Last Yankee, the Young Vic's most successful production, will transfer to the Duke of York's Theatre in the West End on April 20.

STEPHEN MARKESON



Final stage: Arthur Miller sitting for the finishing touches to a portrait by Jim Russell in the coffee bar of the Young Vic yesterday

Anti-abortion groups join forces for protest

■ A team of militant pro-lifers arrives in Britain tomorrow to help to step up a campaign against legal abortion clinics

By Jeremy Laurance, Health Services Correspondent

THE violent campaign waged against legal abortion in the United States could erupt in Britain next week when militant US anti-abortionists join forces with their British supporters to picket London family planning organisations.

Up to 25 representatives of the US anti-abortion organisations Rescue Outreach and Rescue America, which have been involved in arson attacks, bombings and shootings in America, are expected at Heathrow airport tomorrow.

They are due to join a week of demonstrations in London led by Father James Morrow, the British pro-lifer who was jailed for the assault of a pregnant staff member of an abortion clinic in Birmingham in 1989. Father Morrow recently sought to have the doctor who withdrew treatment from Tony Bland, the Hillsborough disaster victim, prosecuted for murder.

Family planning organisations said they were taking extra security precautions and briefing staff on how to keep out of danger. Main targets for the campaign are expected to be the International Planned Parenthood Federation, which has offices in Regent's Park, and the Marie Stopes clinics in the West End.

In a picket announcement issued by Father Morrow, the federation is described as the "biggest enemy of the human race after its ally, Satan". Supporters are invited to a London rendezvous where they can stay for a week for £60. The first picket is scheduled for Tuesday and further campaigning is planned in Scotland next month from Father Morrow's headquarters in Braemar, Grampian.

Helen Axby, director of Marie Stopes, said staff had been warned not to park their cars close to the clinic and security guards would be provided to escort staff past pickets. "It makes me very angry that the Home Office allows people like this into the country when their stated aim is to close the clinics and stop us going about our legal business," she said.

Frances Perrow, spokeswoman for the Planned Parenthood Federation, said she had received threatening phone calls in the last week accusing her of being a Nazi. "I had a call from Kathy O'Keefe, leader of Rescue Outreach, who accused me of being responsible for causing 50 million abortions worldwide.

"She said there was a clash of two ideologies: God and love versus Hitler and death."

Tactics used against organisations in America included photographing staff as they arrived at or left their offices and blowing up the pictures to make "Wanted" posters.

A doctor at an abortion clinic in Florida was shot dead during a demonstration two weeks ago by Rescue America. Don Treshman, the national director, who is among those expected in Britain this weekend, said afterwards: "While we think the death is unfortunate, the fact is that a number of mothers would have been put at risk today and over a dozen babies would have died at his hands."

New test for cancer in women

By Nick Nuttall
Technology Correspondent

A SIMPLE blood test which researchers claim can spot the recurrence of ovarian cancer up to two years before it is normally detected has been developed by Australian scientists.

The test could play an important role in ensuring that patients get early treatment of an often fatal disease. It is the result of three years of research by a Melbourne team at Monash University and the Prince Henry's Institute of Medical Research, headed by Professor David Healy.

Ovarian cancer afflicts 5,000 women a year in Britain and kills 4,000. Survivors remain at risk of redeveloping the disease and this is the group the research could help.

The test is based on detecting abnormal levels of inhibin, a sex hormone. Professor Healy said that although the test could not screen women at risk of ovarian cancer, "once the cancer is clinically suspected and removed we can use a blood test for inhibin to detect any possible recurrence".

PC hit by brick owes his life to colleague

By Bill Frost

A POLICE officer who was critically injured by a brick hurled through the windscreen of his patrol car said yesterday he could not wait to return to work.

Constable John Robinson, 37, suffered what doctors described as horrific injuries when the brick hit his head "like a bullet" as he and a colleague chased a stolen sports car at 70mph through Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, four weeks ago.

PC Robinson said: "My wife and my family helped pull me through. I am still not totally fit by any means, I still have disabilities caused by the effects of the injuries. But I'm determined to get back into uniform."

PC Robinson said the attack, after which he was on a life-support machine for four days, had not put him off police work. "It doesn't frighten me. It's just one of those things. It happens." He added: "I want to go back to work and carry on."

He said that he owed his life to his partner, PC Michael Mohon, who was driving the car. He said: "I could have been killed. Michael got me to hospital very, very quick and I'm grateful to him."

PC Mohon, 31, said he thought his colleague might die before he could get him to hospital. "I was two miles away from the hospital and to say John was bleeding profusely is an understatement.

"To be honest, I thought at one stage John had gone. He was totally limp and lifeless and I thought I'd lost him. I'm amazed at his progress."

PC Robinson attends hospital twice a week and faces an operation next month in which a metal plate will be fitted to his head. He has been offered a job organising a car crime unit when he is fit to return to work.

Supt Bob Bensley, head of Northumbria police traffic department, said: "I am astounded at the progress John has made.

"There was a very deep concern that he wouldn't pull through. Had it not been for his partner's quick action, he wouldn't be here today."

Eleven people, mostly juveniles, are currently remanded in custody charged with criminal damage with intent to endanger PC Robinson's life.

Who's a pretty stupid boy, then?

By Louise Hidalgo

AFTER two years and buckets of bird feed, researchers at Cardiff University face the probability that parrots are no more intelligent than a pigeon in the park.

Coco the parrot was supposed to provide the key to the origins of human intelligence. But the Red Lord Amazon has stubbornly refused every effort to prove that it has much intelligence at all during two years as guest of the university's psychology department.

Professor John Pearce had hoped Coco would show that parrots were capable of abstract thought. Pigeons and rats had proved inadequate to the task. American research had suggested parrots might be different.

Coco spent hour after hour in an intelligence testing chamber to see if it could distinguish sameness and difference. A television screen flickered up colours: when they were the same, the bird would have to press a button on the right to be rewarded with a walnut or chocolate; when the colours were different, it had to press a button on the left.

Coco has yet to grasp the point. Professor Pearce says the months of research and the university's initial £400 investment in the bird have not been wasted and vows to continue. "My guess is, we have not given Coco enough training. After all, how would a two-year-old child react? If a parrot could grasp abstract relationships, it would show that we humans evolved with the capacity for thought before we could use language."

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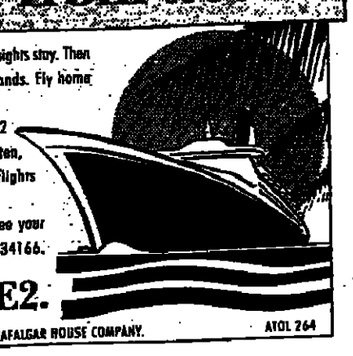
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Cull half the Cairngorms red deer, says Magnusson

BY JOHN YOUNG

HALF of the red deer in the Cairngorms should be culled to encourage regeneration of the ancient Caledonian pine forest and allow the establishment of two new forests, a report published yesterday recommends.

The report, by a government working party headed by Magnus Magnusson, chairman of Scottish Natural Heritage, advises against creating a new management structure on the lines of a national park. Instead, it favours a voluntary partnership between landowning, environmental and community interests and designation of the Cairngorms as a natural heritage area to protect its features.

Two of the 16 members of the working party have published a dissenting report as an appendix to the main document, in which they argue that proper management cannot be ensured by voluntary means. Eric Langmuir, a mountaineer, and John Hunt, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, call for the establishment of a Cairngorms Authority, funded largely by central government and armed with planning powers.

The majority of the working party, which was set up in 1990 by Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Scotland, believes that the creation of an all-purpose authority would bring significant disadvantages, and it notes that there is strong local opposition to the idea.

"We believe the voluntary principle has not been given the chance to work properly in the Cairngorms in the past, because of the failure of government grant schemes to promote environmental objectives," the report says. The government should introduce measures designed to encourage environmentally friendly practices.

The deer culling is essential to the future of the Cairngorms, in particular the creation of the Forest of Strathspey and the Forest of Mar, it says. Mr Lang should consider the provision of special powers to conduct local culls out of season.

Other key recommendations include: exemption of landowners from inheritance tax, provided they implement management agreements to enhance the natural heritage; and levels of support to farmers to recognise the special qualities of the area.

The report also urges proper maintenance of heather moorland and a ban on further industrial peat extraction; urgent action to manage the impact of visitors, who are causing damage to wildlife and vegetation on the high tops; a tourist management scheme to attempt to balance visitor numbers with ecological requirements; and agreement that the traditional right to roam should be exercised responsibly.

Other recommendations include a strategy for controlling predators, such as crows and gulls; and continuing research into the extent and effects of acid rain and other airborne pollution.

☐ *Common Sense and Sustainability* (Scottish Office, New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3TD; free)

MARC ASPLAND



New chapter: Sara Maitland prefers Catholicism's "order and authority"

Anglican feminist takes road to Rome

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

SARA Maitland, the feminist author and wife of a Church of England vicar, has joined the Roman Catholic Church, she disclosed yesterday.

Ms Maitland, author of *Daughter of Jerusalem*, an early feminist novel, said she was a supporter of women priests. She described herself as a "maverick" and said she would continue to publish and promote feminist ideas as a Catholic.

While many public figures have been threatening to leave the Church of England since the decision to ordain women priests, Ms Maitland is one of the first to be received into the Catholic church.

Ms Maitland said she had been an Anglo-Catholic ever since she became a Christian as a young adult. But Anglo-Catholicism was now "a dead tradition, a tradition that has collapsed into appalling misogyny and conservatism".

After a decade of doubts about the Anglican church, which culminated in the vote to ordain women priests last November, Ms Maitland was received into the Catholic church last Friday by a Jesuit priest in London. Her husband, an Anglo-Catholic with a parish in east London, read the Gospel at a brief service.

Ms Maitland said she was attracted to Rome because of the emphasis on Mary, who was the perfect feminist ideal, representing what it meant to be a good human being. The order and authority of the Catholic church, as opposed to the liberalism of the Church of England, appealed to her. She accused the Church of England of contradicting itself over women priests and homosexuality.

Leading article, page 15
At Your Service, Weekend page 14

Credo

We need to find a new direction

David Hope

Ecclesiastes contains some of the best wisdom literature in the Old Testament. The central theme of the book is a stark realism about our human condition and the way we experience life.

Yesterday, in St Paul's Cathedral, at the United Guilds Service, I took Chapter 7, Verse 14 of this book as an example of the wisdom writer's advice in times of social and economic uncertainty: "In the day of prosperity be joyful; in the day of adversity consider."

Here is a very appropriate saying in which the full force of the Hebrew verb "consider" needs careful exploration and exposition. Yes, when times are good, rejoicing comes readily to hand. But when times are not so good, in difficulty and in adversity, Ecclesiastes calls upon us to "consider", to reflect carefully and deeply about possible causes, not simply to become captive to adversity or to allow adversity to dictate the agenda. The force of the Hebrew verb urges an altogether more radical reassessment and reappraisal of our priorities for life and living within a clear framework and context. "Fear God and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man."



Certainly we live in difficult and uncertain times. In a week when we have seen renewed unrest in Russia, devastation and killing in former Yugoslavia, the mindless bomb attack in Warrington, there is much for us to consider, to lay to heart. The Church of England, too, has been going through some difficult times in recent months. There are those who rejoice greatly after the vote on the ordination of women. Others experience considerable adversity. There is an all-round feeling that we need now to discover a fresh sense of direction, a more creative way forward in mission.

However, even the bad news cannot altogether eradicate the good. As the Archbishop of Canterbury reminded us during his visit to Warrington this week, there are very many ordinary folk who are getting on with their lives and indeed trying to live in a good, decent and honest way.

Of course, wealth, if it is pursued purely and simply for its own ends, is a violation of that which has been entrusted to us by God. And part of the message of Ecclesiastes is that when the going does get tough, then we can so easily fall prey to that aspect of our worst selves as human beings, to cut corners and to lower standards. This we simply cannot afford to do.

Further, when the pressures are on, there is a similar tendency to overemphasise oneself, my own wants and desires and expectations, at the expense of my neighbour, when the one must necessarily always be seen in the altogether larger and wider context of the other, where the more specifically religious and Christian language and concepts of sacrifice and self-offering and self-giving, of love and concern for one's neighbour, as well as for oneself, become all the more relevant and necessary.

In all of this, it is the business of the Church ever to remain faithful and true to the words and works of Jesus, to speak them in season and out, ever setting before men and women that higher vocation to which we are called, the privilege together of participating in God's creative purposes for us and his world.

We need to be mindful, too, that even as we pass through things temporal we do not lose sight of things eternal. For at the end of the day, we shall all have to render account before Him from whom no creature is hidden. For in the words of the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews, "all are open and laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do".

No wonder our writer urges us: "In the day of prosperity be joyful; in the day of adversity consider".

Dr David Hope is the Bishop of London.

WEEKEND WATCH

Oysters offer luxury bargain

BY IAN MURRAY

OYSTERS are the luxury bargain of the weekend. At £5 a dozen or 45p each for the native British varieties, they are at their lowest price this year and widely available.

Even for those who do not like or cannot open oysters, fresh seafood is one of the best buys on the market. Cock crabs from East Anglia or Cornwall are excellent value at £2 a pound. Plaice is becoming plumper and firmer, selling for up to £1.80 a pound for large fish, while lemon sole is in excellent condition and costs no more than £2.80 a pound.

Best seafood buy, according to the Sea Fish Industry Authority, is grey mullet at up to £1.80 a pound. Grill the small ones whole or stuff and bake the larger ones, and serve with a piquant sauce.

For meat eaters, pork is the best buy at the moment. Safeway has 25p off loin and rib chops, which are selling there for £1.34 a pound. Asda has fresh rolled shoulder, down by 29p to £1.08 a pound. Gateway is selling boneless spare rib chops at £1.49, a saving of 35p a pound.

They should all be served with lashings of apple sauce to celebrate the fact that Monday sees the start of Britain's first National Bramley Week. The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau says they should cost as little as 30p a pound, although the price can be as high as 45p depending on the quality.

For an accompanying vegetable, the bureau says the best buy this week are cauliflowers from Brittany, which are becoming larger and more plentiful as the weather improves. They sell for between 50p and 65p a head. Kenyan fine beans at £1.60 a pound or Guatemalan mangetout at up to £3 a pound can add a luxury touch. Otherwise, root vegetables such as parsnip (30p a pound) and swedes (20p a pound) are still available. Broccoli is about £1 a pound.

Oranges from Spain, Israel and Morocco are all at their juiciest and can be as cheap as 10p each. The bureau suggests they mix well in an unusual salad with poached aubergines at £1.70 a pound. For an out of season touch to end off the meal, strawberries from Spain are under a pound for an 8oz punnet.

For those looking ahead to Easter, now is a good time to buy a frozen turkey, selling at only 45p a pound in Sainsbury's or 46p at Safeway.

■ **Whether you're shopping for bargains or taking a trip, *The Times* publishes a new weekly guide to the best value in town**

Steer clear of troublespots

BY PETER VICTOR

MOTORISTS using main routes this weekend have been warned by AA Roadwatch to avoid several troublespots.

The M1 has lane closures for widening work at junctions 9 (A5) and 10 (Luton). There are major works and contraflows from junction 18 (A428) to just north of junction 19 (M6). From 10am tomorrow, lane closures will result in the closure of the M1 from junctions 33 to 32.

The M4 has a contraflow between junction 4B (M25) and junction 5 (Langley). Delays are likely between junctions 24 and 26, with lane restrictions both ways. Between junctions 41 and 42 in West Glamorgan, there are major roadworks and a contraflow.

The M6 has a contraflow between junctions 20 (Lymm) and 21 (Croft) in Cheshire. There is no exit northbound to the A50 at Lymm. The southbound carriageway narrows to two lanes approaching the M1 link at Leicestershire. From junction 14 (Stafford) to junction 15 (Stoke), one lane is closed southbound.

Delays are likely on the M8 at junction 29 with outside lanes closed in both directions. Serious congestion is expected eastbound between there and junction 30 (Erskine).

Expect long delays on the M23 between junction 10 (Crawley) and junction 11 (Pease Pottage) in West Sussex. There is a contraflow for resurfacing work.

The M25 in Buckinghamshire has contraflows between junctions 15 (M4) and 16 (M40). The M42 has narrow lanes and a 50mph limit around junction 6 (NEC) in Birmingham.

The M62 eastbound will be closed overnight at junction 12 (Eccles) in Greater Manchester with diversions operating from 9pm to 6am.

Delays are expected on the M74 northbound with one lane closed between junction 7 (Larkhall) and junction 6 (Hamilton) in Strathclyde.

For more detailed AA Roadwatch information, call the 24-hour traffic line on 0836 401 737.

☐ Ferry bargains: Stena Sealink is offering channel crossings to France this weekend for £1 per person and £16 for a car. Call 0233 647 047 for further information.

☐ Bargain breaks: Trailfinders (071 938 3232) has bargain flights to Amsterdam leaving from Gatwick Airport today for £85 return per person. There is a minimum Saturday night stopover. Crystal Holidays (081 399 5144) has seven-night skiing breaks in France from £149 per person, departing on April 2 from London by train.

Weather and AA Roadwatch, page 18
BA price cut, page 1

Complaints rule flouted by lawyers

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

MANY solicitors' firms are flouting the new "client care" rule that obliges them to set up an internal complaints system.

Research by the Law Society for the Solicitors' Complaints Bureau has found that a rule introduced in May 1991, obliging firms to set up a complaints system and tell clients of its existence is, in many cases, being ignored. The smaller the firm, the less likely it is to comply.

The survey, of 800 firms ranging in size from one-man bands to practices with up to ten partners, finds fewer than half — 41 per cent — of sole practitioners are complying with the rule. Even where a complaints system exists, only 17 per cent of firms bother to tell clients about it, as required.

Larger firms show a better compliance rate: some 70 per cent of two to four-partner firms are complying and 79 per cent of five to ten-partner firms. But even with the largest of those firms, only 47 per cent explain to clients how they can complain.

The survey, the findings of which are published in this week's *Law Society Gazette*, covers smaller firms, but they are the ones with whom most of the public deals; there are just over 400 firms with 11 or more partners out of more than 11,000 in England and Wales.

Just over one quarter of sole practitioners and firms with up to four partners are still not initiating discussions on fees in advance of the work and only discuss costs in response to questions. The figure drops to just below one fifth for five to ten-partner firms. John Aucott, a Law Society council member, said the findings were "very sad" and the lack of compliance would have to be tackled. One way was through the Solicitors' Complaints Bureau "getting tough".

IN BRIEF

Lover must pay woman he jilted

A judge yesterday ordered a woman's former lover to retransfer the house she put in their joint names and pay back money she gave him, plus nearly £10,000 interest.

The High Court heard that Deirdre Neilson, 33, of Redbridge, east London, was dominated by Craig Tovey, 31, a married man, who disappeared after the transactions were completed.

Miss Neilson's counsel said that when Mr Tovey, of Walthamstow, east London, told her he was getting a divorce to live with her, she gave him £5,500 she raised from loans, transferred her home into their joint names, remortgaged it and gave him the balance of £17,653.

£1.7m award

Naiada Blunden, 31, of Bournemouth, Dorset, who suffered devastating head injuries in a 1982 motorcycle accident in France, was awarded £1.74 million in the High Court.

Murder in bath

A grandmother was drowned in her own bath after being repeatedly beaten with a blunt object, police said yesterday. Catherine Dye was found by her daughter at her sheltered home at Coltishall, Norfolk.

Drivers halted

A speed trap on a contraflow on the M20 in Kent between Maidstone and Hollingbourne netted 776 offenders in six months. There were 120 accidents, including two deaths.

Final inflation

A 6d (2.5p) programme for the 1921 FA Cup final in which Spurs beat Wolves 1-0 at Stamford Bridge, west London, sold for £990 at an auction in Nottingham.

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Balladur team ready to rule as right comes in from cold

■ The politicians chosen for France's new cabinet will indicate whether the country is setting out on a more nationalistic path

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

FRANCE decides the final shape of its new conservative majority in electoral run-offs tomorrow, but after a truce in the war of nerves between President Mitterrand and Gaullist leaders, only an upset could block the appointment of Edouard Balladur, a Gaullist, as prime minister.

Since the right-wing tidal wave is unlikely to ebb in the second round in 497 of the 577 constituencies and the RPR (Gaullist) party is all but certain to hold the edge over its centre-right allies of the UDF group, M Mitterrand is expected to call on M Balladur on Monday to form a government that will "cohabit" with his Socialist presidency for up to two years.

The final hurdles were removed yesterday when Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader who has thrown his all into the race to succeed M Mitterrand, relented in his offensive against the president, saying: "Nobody disputes the president's constitutional right to finish his term if he wishes." M Mitterrand had threatened to turn to Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's UDF if M Chirac persisted in calling for his own departure.

With the rhetorical storm blowing over, M Balladur, a patrician technocrat who was finance minister in the mid-1980s, is spending the weekend with his "transition team" trying to hammer out a government that takes account of the Gaullist-UDF balance of power. That means trying to satisfy a stable of ambitious heavyweights from two rival camps, all intent on savouring power after a decade in the cold.

Among those in the running for top posts are Alain Juppe, the Gaullist secretary-general, who wants the foreign ministry, François Léotard, the pro-European centrist leader with presidential ambitions, Charles Pasqua, the anti-Maastricht Gaullist who wants the defence ministry and a group of younger men such as Alain Madelin, Nicholas Sarkozy and Gérard Longuet. One of the most delicate matters is the post, if any, to be offered to M Giscard d'Estaing.

The government line-up will say much about the prospect of France shifting to a more nationalistic path, as suggested by remarks from M Chirac and other Gaullists, or of it continuing towards European integration.

The expected 85 per cent conservative majority in the incoming government means that M Mitterrand's margin for manoeuvre is slim compared with the 1986-8 "cohabitation". M Mitterrand's power as head of state means he can fight a formidable guerrilla war. He fired off a round yesterday, demonstrating his aim to retain control of foreign policy by appealing for a summit of the heads of the G7 leading industrialised nations to discuss aid to Russia.

The potential for a struggle over foreign policy is beginning to concern French allies and interest the financial markets, which are betting on the future of the franc within the European monetary system. In an editorial *Le Monde* worried that "confusion over foreign policy on the right and trench warfare led by the Elysée could paralyse French action abroad".

M Balladur, who excels in the art of soothing, tried to play down any hopes of miracles yesterday. "The important thing is that within two years the French have the impression that something is beginning to change in our country," he said. His first targets would be unemployment and crime. By the end of the year, he hoped, the new government will have halted the rise in unemployment, which, at 10.5 per cent of the workforce, was seen as the overriding cause of the Socialist downfall.

The conservatives' economic plan, which embodies no radical shift from the Socialists', aims to promote employment through fiscal schemes. They have promised cuts in income tax and they plan to close the 220 billion franc (£26.7 billion) budget deficit partly through privatising remaining banks and financial institutions held by the state and then state-run industrial concerns such as Renault. M Balladur is also an advocate of the strong franc. The Gaullist-led team is expected to move quickly with popular actions to boost the police force and toughen legal procedures.

Diary, page 14

FRENCH ELECTIONS



Writing on the wall: a giant poster, proclaiming "Farewell to the left, France returns", greeting Parisians yesterday as voters prepare for the second round of elections tomorrow. The Socialists are heading for defeat as the pollsters continue to predict a landslide for the centre-right

Italy's poll reforms get under way

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

CRUSADERS for Italian electoral reform expressed satisfaction yesterday after parliament approved legislation allowing the direct election of mayors, but said the change does not go far enough to break the stranglehold of corrupt parties on political life.

The senate voted by 144 to 29 on Thursday night to pass the reform and to introduce the first-past-the-post system for local elections in some smaller constituencies. The legislation is the first important electoral reform approved since the general election last April and leaders of government parties hoped that it would restore public confidence in their ability to reform the system.

However, Mario Segni, the rebel Christian Democrat MP leading the movement for electoral reform in a series of referendums to be held next month, said the legislation did not go far enough because the winner-takes-all system should apply to all constituencies.

Irate steelworkers march on Bonn

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

Tens of thousands of angry steelworkers descended on Bonn yesterday, announcing that the "trumpets of Jericho will be but a whisper compared with what will follow" if their future is not secured.

The rally was the climax of a three-day march from the Ruhr valley by thousands of workers who are expected to lose their jobs under the huge programme of closures just announced for the ailing steel industry. Waving banners saying "Let's bring fire to Bonn rather than be fired by Krupp", protesters came from east and west Germany to demand that the government and industry draw up a plan to prevent widespread redundancies.

Franz Steinkühler, head of the giant IG Metall trade union, warned the government that a wave of anger would sweep the country if politicians and industrial leaders did not do something to save the steelworkers' jobs. The latest proposals for contraction by Krupp, Hoesch and other steel companies could lead to the loss of 40,000 jobs.

Herr Steinkühler blamed the government for not helping the steel workers and the industry's leaders for not making provision for the future during the golden age of German steel. He reiterated his call for a national conference of steel managers, unions and politicians. This was rejected by Günter Rexrodt, the economics minister, who said such a conference would not save jobs. He said there was no patent medicine against unemployment.

The demonstration was held against a background of growing government concern that Germans are no longer working as hard as they must to remain competitive.

Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, gave a warning that the country must not become a "collective amusement park". With ever shorter working hours, longer weekends and more old people and students to support, Germany could not afford to take things easy, he said.

"We must set new priorities, change our habits and put off many of the things we would like to have," he said. Germany's quality of life did not depend on whether people worked 36 or 40 hours, he said, suggesting concern at the weakening work ethic which has led to Germany having, at an average of 37.5 a week, the world's shortest working hours.

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Power struggle between the Russian leader and parliament could lead to early elections

Yeltsin reshuffles team and fends off impeachment

Boris Yeltsin's enemies are drawing back from confrontation. The congress is not expected to call for impeachment today

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA's constitutional impasse yesterday showed signs of ending in early elections as the chairman of the country's highest court gave a warning that an outright win for either President Yeltsin or his parliamentary opponent could destroy the country.

Addressing an emergency session of the Congress of People's Deputies, Valeri Zorkin, chairman of the constitutional court, said: "If the appeals from the conflicting sides in our society to eliminate the other prevail, Russia will perish."

Aleksandr Rutskoi, the vice-president, attacked the government's reforms and said he would have resigned long ago had he not been elected on the same platform as the president and given his "word of honour as an officer" that he would stay loyal.

He left no doubt, however, that he opposed Mr Yeltsin's policies and style of leadership and allied himself with hardline critics when he said that "political adventurism and romanticism about democracy had demolished the Soviet Union and now risked breaking up Russia".

An impeachment motion proposed by a conservative deputy was discussed, but as no vote will be taken until today it is unlikely to achieve the two-thirds majority necessary to remove President Yeltsin. Mr Zorkin, who has been acting as a go-between, called for early parliamentary and presidential elections later this year to resolve the deadlock and said that congress — a hangover from the Soviet era — should prepare to dissolve itself. Mr Yeltsin welcomed his proposals guardedly, but said he still intended to press ahead with the April plebiscite.

Ruslan Khasbulatov, the congress speaker, told deputies that they were facing an attempt by the president to monopolise power in the state and suggested that the legislature should change the constitution to put parliament in charge of the government. Mr Yeltsin, on the other hand, wants to see the constitution amended to yield a new legislative structure that would rid him of the troublesome congress and render parliament more manageable. He believes he can secure enough public support in next month's referendum to discredit the legislature's claim to be truly representative.

Mr Yeltsin received a further fillip as Japan announced that it had invited him to Tokyo in July for the annual summit meeting of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations. G7 foreign and finance ministers will meet next month to discuss how to help him continue his reforms.

The government reform team was reshuffled yesterday, with Boris Fyodorov, the deputy prime minister and lynchpin of the restructuring programme, taking the key post of finance minister. He replaces Viktor Barchek, who is blamed for failing to tackle the slump in industrial output. Andrei Nechayev, the economics minister, was also moved to another job, and another junior minister was sacked. In his speech Mr Yeltsin admitted that his reforms had placed too much faith in Western aid and had taken a heavy toll on the people. He promised that further reforms "would have a strong social orientation".

Outside the chamber, hardline deputies shouted second world war slogans and chanted: "Boris Yeltsin, this is your Stalingrad."

☐ **Captain held:** Captain Vladimir Denisenko has been arrested in the Russian Pacific fleet's home port of Vladivostok on the orders of the military prosecutor, commonwealth television reported. The captain is charged with neglecting his duties after four conscripts at a training base on the nearby island of Russkii died last month from malnutrition. *(Reuter)*



Men of influence: from left, Viktor Verin, the interior minister, Pavel Grachev, defence minister, and Viktor Barannikov, security minister, listening to yesterday's opening session of the Congress of People's Deputies, convened to consider the impeachment of President Yeltsin

Populist president puts opponents through screen test

BY ANNE MCELVOY

Pity the poor Russians trying to recover from a hard day's work by indulging in a bout of evening escapism in front of the television this week. They are unlikely to be able to avoid a treatise from the president on the necessity of reform, a harangue from the speaker of parliament about the evils of reform, or interviews with deputies about the dangers facing the motherland.

The country's constitutional battle, previously conducted in the arena of the Congress of People's Deputies, has now become a fully fledged television war. Since Mr Yeltsin announced that he wanted a plebiscite at the end of next month on whether he or parliament should hold sway it has become clear that, for all the sound and fury of the congress, it is in the nation's living rooms that the struggle for power ultimately will be decided.

In the space of a single evening on Thursday, Channel Two devoted half an hour to the ramblings of Ruslan Khasbulatov, the speaker. Those who tried to flee to Channel One found an extended news programme on the political events followed by the thoughts of President Yeltsin. "It is just like the old days, when you switched on hoping for an adventure film only to find documentaries on the harvest," one disgruntled viewer said. "The principle is still the same: they make us watch what they want us to watch."

The vastness of Russia and the poorly developed infrastructure have made television the central instrument of political control since it became widely available in the cities in the 1960s. By the mid-1970s there were few Russians who did not have access to a set.

Since he took power, Mr Yeltsin has used television as his principal means of keeping public opinion on his side and has no qualms about arranging its running to ensure that it will be faithful to him in time of crisis. Igor Malashenko, the head of commonwealth television, resigned last month saying that he could no longer tolerate "the absolute power of democrats at the station". He was replaced by Vyacheslav Bragin, an active member of the Democratic Russia group and a close personal ally of Mr Yeltsin.

Last Saturday evening, when he could be sure of reaching the maximum number of viewers, Mr Yeltsin took to the airwaves to announce special rule. He did not, however, present the decree that accompanies such an announcement, correctly calculating that the opposition would scream for his impeachment and, in the turbulence that followed, reveal its real aim of abandoning reform.

There are unmistakable echoes of Soviet manipulation of the media. Aleksandr Nevzorov, St Petersburg's most popular presenter, who is notorious for his nationalist and anti-government views, was taken off the air this week and prevented by police from entering his studio.

Mr Khasbulatov, Mr Yeltsin's arch-rival, had announced on camera that he was in favour of impeachment on the basis that Mr Yeltsin's Saturday night slot had violated the constitution. But a mere broadcast cannot in itself be unconstitutional and Mr Khasbulatov was left with egg on his face when the president produced the final version of the decree containing no mention of emergency rule and phrased in milder terms. On Thursday night, Mr Yeltsin returned to our screens to pour mockery on the opposition's "hysterical yelling about coups and conspiracies".

Mr Khasbulatov had had



Yeltsin: adept in front of television cameras

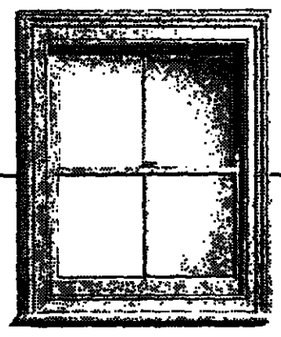
enough. On hearing that the president was on his way to the television studios, he demanded air-time on the other channel. For the first time, viewers had the chance to compare the contenders in the manner of an American presidential debate.

Mr Yeltsin's has the advantage of experience and has acquired a convincing screen style. He dons his most authoritative navy blue blazer, his steel-grey hair is brushed into a helmet over a furrowed brow and he puts himself, like any good populist, at the mercy of the people.

Mr Khasbulatov is a beginner by comparison. Mr Yeltsin won round one of the television war by a convincing margin. But all over Russia, the viewers were drifting into the kitchen, having an early night, or simply turning off.

☐ **Washington:** Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, on his first visit to President Clinton, is expected to back American demands that the International Monetary Fund should provide a further $10 billion (£6.3 billion) to aid the ailing Russian economy.

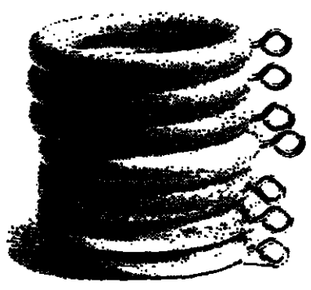
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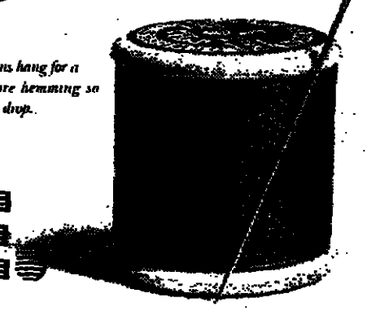
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Serbs need to be convinced on sanctions, says Owen

■ The EC's negotiator believes peace can be achieved in former Yugoslavia only with judicious application of stick and carrot

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

LORD Owen believes that the Serb-dominated government of the rump Yugoslavia must be offered the prospect of a relaxation of United Nations sanctions to obtain its support for a peace settlement in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In an interview with *The Times* after securing the signature of the Muslim-led Bosnian government on the peace package he prepared with Cyrus Vance, Lord Owen, the European Community mediator, said the Serbs must be offered "carrots and sticks". He added: "There must be very clear language, which we have so far not been prepared to speak openly about, that sanctions will be withdrawn if there is implementation of the peace plan, not by words, but by definite stages of implementation."



Karadzic yesterday: did not negotiate seriously

Lord Owen said President Mitterrand of France had grasped the nettle by discussing a lifting of sanctions when he met Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, in Paris this month. Lord Owen plans to brief European leaders this weekend before returning to New York to address the United Nations Security Council.

"There is only one thing that has the capacity to deliver Belgrade the clear evidence that economic sanctions will be applied and will be applied toughly and the clear incentive that if they decide to co-operate, sanctions will be lifted in a reasonable and clear timescale," Lord Owen said. "They are very sceptical about the readiness of the world to lift sanctions if they co-operate. I think we have to deal with that problem."

Nevertheless, Lord Owen made clear that any relaxation of sanctions would have to be tied closely to the performance of certain obligations spelt out in the Vance-Owen peace plan. He suggested that one landmark for an easing of sanctions could be the deadline 45 days after a settlement for the three warring sides to withdraw their forces to the proposed provinces where their respective communities will govern.

"Nobody is going to lift sanctions until there are concrete steps past the cessation of hostilities: the withdrawal of heavy weapons, the actual withdrawal to their provinces of the armed forces of the different sides." At the same time, Lord Owen made clear that he expects a move to impose new sanctions on Yugoslavia "within days" in an effort to force the Serbs to sign the peace package.

"A lot depends on how quickly and how firmly the international community acts," he said. "In a sense they have not been faced with this choice because there was not a concrete plan and they were not prepared to endorse it — effectively the Americans were not prepared to endorse it — until Izetbegovic [president of Bosnia] had done it, so he had been virtually given a veto. That has now been resolved," he continued. "It frees the United States to take much firmer action if they want to. It also makes it much easier to try to persuade the United Nations to take tougher sanctions, with the major caveat about the position of the Russian Federation." Although sympathetic to the security council's decision to postpone enforcement of the no-fly zone over Bosnia because of fears that it would help pro-Serb critics of President Yeltsin, Lord Owen insisted that future UN action on Bosnia must not be held hostage by Russia.

"I do not think that we must allow the Russian Federation position to dominate the strategy on the fundamentals, on the question of sanctions," he said, daring Moscow to veto new sanctions. "At the end of the day, let them issue a veto.

Despite President Clinton's pledge to consider exempting the Bosnian government from the UN arms embargo if the Serbs refuse to settle, Lord Owen said that he and Mr Vance opposed selective lifting of the sanctions on arms shipments.

The former British foreign secretary said he was concerned that Serb advances on the battlefield made it more difficult to obtain their support for the peace plan. He said Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, had "not negotiated seriously" during the recent talks in New York and had restated his "fundamental opposition" to being part of Bosnia-Herzegovina. "There is a cockiness," he said, adding: "This is a worrying development."



Bosnia breakthrough: Lord Owen announcing to reporters at the UN in New York that Alija Izetbegovic, the Bosnian Muslim president, had signed the peace package. The Serbs are alone now in delaying the truce effort

Karadzic rejects peace formula

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

RADOVAN Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said yesterday that "we cannot and must not accept" the Owen-Vance peace plan.

The acceptance by Alija Izetbegovic, the Bosnian president, on Thursday "did not surprise us", Biljana Plavsic, a senior Bosnian Serb leader, said. "He has lost the war militarily and now he thinks he can win a political victory by putting pressure on us."

British and French diplomats saw Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, yesterday to protest against "callous [Serb] aggression" in Bosnia and told him that unless it stopped, "any return to normal relations is out of the question". Mr Milosevic said that the Bosnian Serbs found the Vance-Owen plan "unsignable" because of its proposed map of the country.

The plan envisages the carving up of Bosnia into ten autonomous provinces, but the Serbs reject that because it would mean that areas now under their control would be divided. If that happened, it would be difficult in future for their areas to secede to form a Union of Serbian States with Serbia, which they have often declared to be their goal.

Speaking on Radio Belgrade from New York, where he had been attending the peace talks, Dr Karadzic said that Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance had tried to prevail on him to sign a plan "which the Serbian people can never accept". He accused them of being "one-sided and biased" and added: "This round [of talks] has ended and it will be a long time before we see each other again."

Mrs Plavsic also ruled out any chance that the Serbs might agree to the plan. "The Vance-Owen plan is out of the question," she said. "We will not change our position. Sixty four per cent of Bosnia-Herzegovina is our property." The Serbs hold 70 per cent of the country, but the plan would leave them in effective control of only 40 per cent.

Mrs Plavsic has the reputation of being a hardliner. However, many believe that she says what other Serb leaders think but may find it undiplomatic to say. Asked about military intervention, she said: "Our soldiers would welcome a fight against American troops."

She also dismissed the threat of the lifting of the arms embargo against Bosnia. "It won't make much difference," she said, "because they are already getting arms from the Croats, the Turks and UN forces in Bosnia."

The Bosnian Serbs often accuse the UN of delivering arms to their enemies, even when they have thoroughly inspected the aid convoys that they claim later had carried weapons.

Death penalty call in war crime trial

FROM REUTER IN SARAJEVO

PROSECUTORS in a Sarajevo war crimes trial yesterday called for the death penalty for two Serb soldiers accused of genocide, rape and murder, describing them as "direct executors" of a criminal ideology.

"Those who have committed these crimes and who are still committing them should never have peace and should always be hounded," Ljubo Lukic, the prosecutor, said when summing up his case. "As prosecutor," he added, "I demand the death penalty for Borislav Herak and Sretko Damjanovic."

Mr Herak, 22, and Mr Damjanovic, 31, were arrested at a Bosnian checkpoint in November after they made a wrong turn while driving in Serb-held suburbs west of Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital. Both men were in the army that has laid devastating siege to Sarajevo for 11 months. They are the first people tried for war crimes since the Bosnian conflict began last April and could face a firing squad if convicted.

Mr Lukic depicted the defendants as willing pawns in systematic Serb efforts to wipe out Bosnian Muslims. "Borislav Herak and Sretko Damjanovic are direct executors of sick policies, of the criminal policies of the Serbian Democratic Society and of its criminal ideology," he said. The SDS is a nationalist party whose goal is the creation of a "pure" Serb state.

Mr Herak has confessed to a series of rapes, murders and robberies. He admits raping 16 Muslim women and murdering 11 of them. Most were taken from a motel north of Sarajevo where they were held prisoner, gang-raped by Serb soldiers and then killed. Mr Herak has testified that he and other Serb soldiers were told by their commanders to rape the women because it would be good for morale.

Mr Damjanovic has recanted his signed confession, saying it was beaten out of him by jailers, but the prosecutor rejected his protestations of innocence.

☐ **Zagreb:** The United States will accept another 2,000 Bosnian refugees and give priority to victims of rape and torture, a US embassy spokesman said. Washington had previously agreed to take 1,000, of whom about 300 have been accepted so far. *(AP)*

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ANC calls on Pretoria to come clean on bomb costs

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

THE African National Congress accused President de Klerk yesterday of playing down the amount spent on South Africa's nuclear weapons programme, saying it had cost taxpayers ten times as much as the 700 million rand (£150 million) he had claimed.

"We believe that the true amount is closer to seven billion rand," the ANC said. "Unless Mr de Klerk allows full disclosure of the programme, speculation will continue. We need to know which budget votes were used for the programme." Professor Renfrew Christie, of the University of the Western Cape, said he believed eight billion rand had been spent on Pretoria's bomb.

At a Johannesburg press conference, Roger Jardine, the ANC's science and technology co-ordinator, welcomed Mr de Klerk's announcement that the programme had been ended and the country's six nuclear bombs destroyed. But he added that if Mr de Klerk "does not come completely clean on the extent of the nuclear weapons programme, his pronouncement in parliament must be regarded as a misguided attempt to make party political gains out of an issue of global importance". He said South Africans needed to know what had been done in their name, what taxes have been spent on, and "who held the trigger".

It was laughable to suggest South Africa had developed its nuclear weapons capability alone, Mr Jardine said. He said South Africa's first nuclear reactor had been provided by America in 1965 under the "Atoms for Peace" programme, that France had provided the Koeberg nuclear power station and that West Germany had provided uranium enrichment technology. He said it was "a well known fact" that Israel and South Africa collaborated on military and nuclear issues.

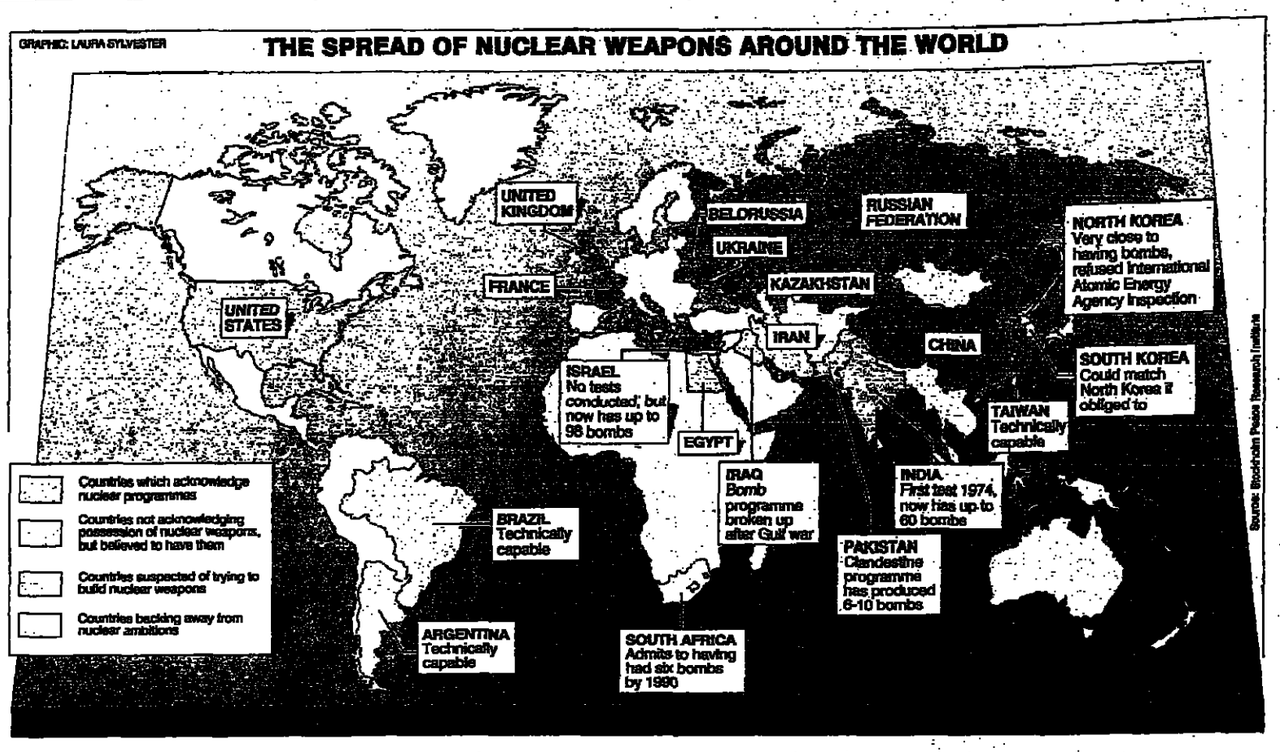
Abdul Minty, the head of the Oslo-based World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, a South African who has been in exile since 1958, reinforced these points. Mr Minty said that the country embarked on its nuclear programme in 1962 (not 1974 as Mr de Klerk had said), and that it could not possibly have done so without outside assistance.

Mr Minty suggested that the white minority government had come under "very powerful international and internal pressure to destroy South Africa's nuclear capability" before a post-apartheid government came to power. He also said that South Africa had developed chemical weapons, and "we do not know where these chemical weapons have gone to".

Yesterday, several reports suggested that South Africa was now anxious about the future of its rocket programme. It had been planned to develop "smart bombs", able to fly themselves to their targets, and the South African authorities had test-fired rocket motors. South Africa now wishes to develop the rockets into launch vehicles for satellites, for earth-sensing and communications applications, and to that end it has expressed willingness to adhere to the Missile Control Technology Regime, aimed at preventing the spread of nuclear rocket technology.

The Johannesburg *Weekly Mail* suggested that Washington would not be satisfied with South Africa's adherence to the technology agreement and wanted the rocket programme to be entirely abandoned.

Leading article, page 15



Asians lead quickening race for nuclear status

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH Africa's admission that it had at least six nuclear weapons by 1990 shows that although the spread of nuclear weapons has been slower than experts had predicted, the pace is quickening. In some parts of the world, notably Stalinist North Korea under the dictator Kim Il Sung, 81 next month, nuclear proliferation is flourishing in an atmosphere of antagonism and paranoia.

Asia is where the greatest dangers lie. It already has two unofficial members of the nuclear club, India and Pakistan. President Kim Young Sam of South Korea issued a warning this week that if it were concerned that North Korea also has the bomb, Japan would be tempted to develop its own, and South Korea "would not sit idle". Taiwan might also revive its own ambitions.

The evidence is that South Africa has been capable of producing weapons-grade uranium since about 1981. A report from the Stockholm Peace Research Institute this month estimated that South Africa might have sufficient material for a weapon: now President de Klerk has admitted to six, and the African National Congress has charged that there was in reality sufficient weapons-grade uranium for 20 bombs.

The same Stockholm report estimated that North Korea had enough for a single warhead. If so the Pyongyang regime has skilfully manipulated the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as a cover for its activities. By signing the treaty in the mid-1980s, North Korea allayed suspicions about the purpose of a large nuclear research reactor it was building.

It delayed reaching agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency over inspections, allowing research to proceed unobserved. After accepting six visits last year, it has refused to allow two further special inspections demanded by the agency, and served notice that it is withdrawing from the treaty. Short of conducting a nuclear test, Pyongyang could scarcely have spelt out its position more clearly. The evidence from Iraq and South Africa shows that technical difficulties are no longer an obstacle to would-be nuclear powers. Any reasonably industrialised nation can acquire the know-how to build a bomb, given sufficient time. Concealment may be easier if the route taken involves uranium enrichment rather than extraction of plutonium from a reactor, but both approaches have been used. North Korea is believed to have both a uranium enrichment plant, and the ability to reprocess nuclear fuel to obtain plutonium. Israel used plutonium; South Africa uranium.



President Kim: "we would not sit idle"

Nor do the opinions of the international community impose any great restraint on a regime willing to lie confidently. Both Iraq and North Korea are signatories of the treaty; both have repeatedly denied they were developing nuclear weapons. South Africa, a non-signatory at the time, made similar assertions. John Vorster, the South African prime minster, wrote in a letter to President Carter in 1977: "South Africa does not have and does not intend to develop nuclear explosive devices for any purpose, either peaceful or as a weapon." This was at a time when American and Soviet spy satellites had detected the digging of an underground test site in the Kalahari Desert.

The pressure apparently stopped South Africa ever using the site, but did not slow the programme. After Pretoria signed the treaty, 115 separate inspections by the atomic agency failed to find evidence of nuclear weapons, perhaps because they had already been dismembled.

Most of the unofficial nuclear powers have not got further than fission weapons of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki types, but Israel is believed to have developed a boosted weapon with some characteristics of a hydrogen bomb. A full-fledged H-bomb could not be produced without testing, so Israel appears to have used a simplified design and relied on computer modelling to ensure that it would work. India may also have followed this course.

The agency is taking comfort from the fact that South Africa has now dismantled its weapons and is apparently seeking to sell the enriched uranium to America before a black government takes over the country. In Latin America, Argentina and Brazil have also stepped back from nuclear development since military governments were replaced by democracy in the 1980s.

UN steps up pressure on Iraq over arms

FROM REUTER IN BAHRAIN

THE United Nations intends to increase pressure on Iraq to obey Gulf war ceasefire resolutions, reminding Baghdad that tough sanctions will stay until there is total compliance, a senior UN inspector said yesterday.

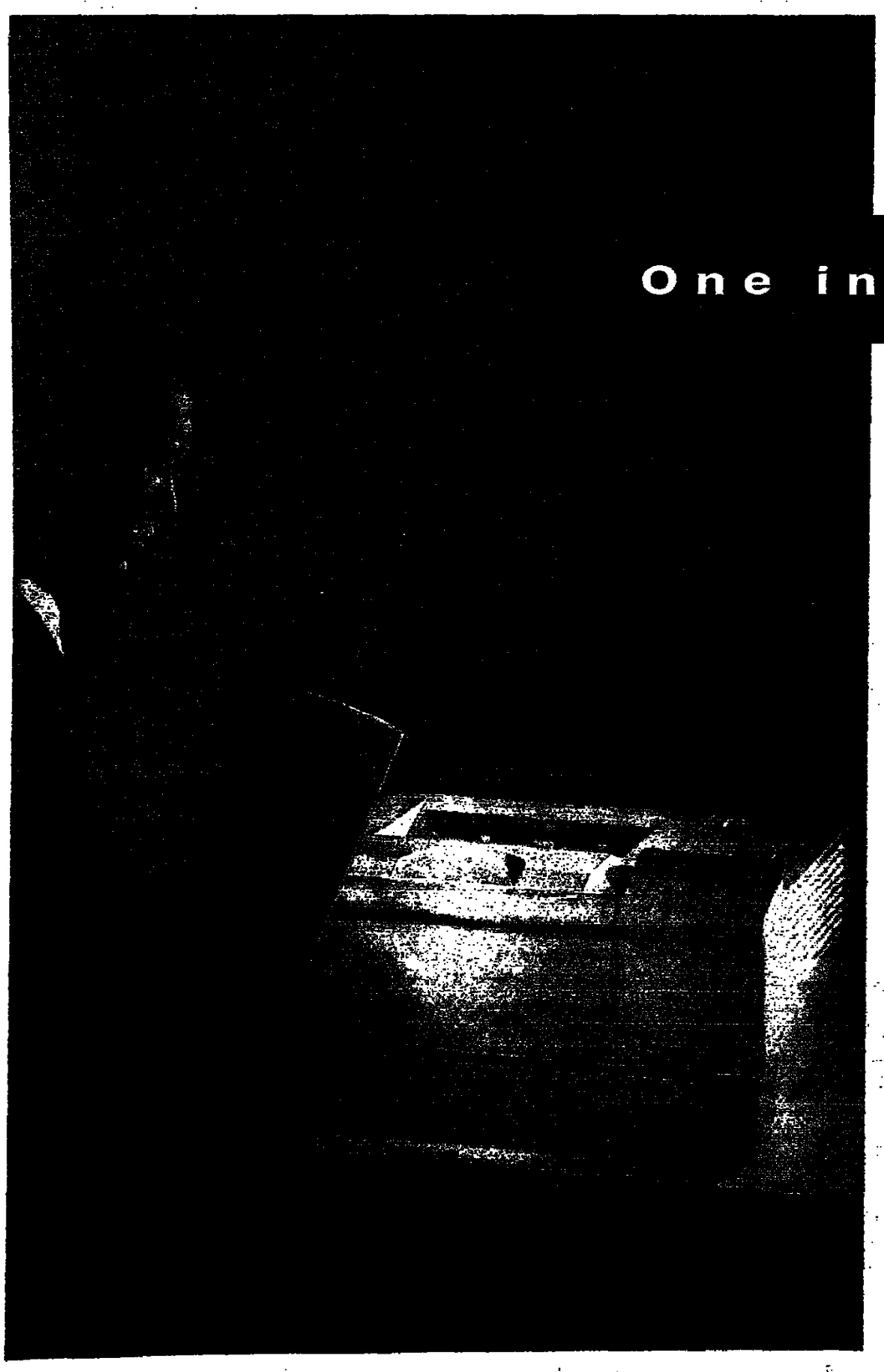
"We'd like to convey to our Iraqi counterparts that without full compliance with the resolutions adopted by the security council there is no way the council will come to a conclusion to remove sanctions," Nikita Smidovitch, a Russian inspector, said.

He was speaking to reporters in Bahrain, regional field headquarters for the commission entrusted with destroying Iraq's most deadly weapons systems, on the eve the team's fifty-fourth visit to Iraq. Mr Smidovitch will accompany Dennis Vincent, the team leader, to help him set up the inspection.

Iraq insists that it has complied fully with resolutions imposed as a result of the Gulf war in 1991. However, Rolf Ekeus, the Swedish diplomat in charge of the UN inspection regime imposed on Iraq, said that even after 53 inspections of Iraq's nuclear, chemical, biological and missile programmes, many questions remain unanswered.

He told a seminar organised by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy: "We don't know how many chemical weapons may have been made. We have a strong reason to believe they are hiding some." Mr Ekeus said inspectors had still not accounted for about 200 of Iraq's former Scud missile arsenal of 890 weapons.

On Iraq's nuclear weapons programme, Mr Ekeus said Baghdad had preserved its engineering and scientific capabilities, blueprints and foreign supplier network. "The capabilities are there, the supply system including banks and payments is there. The day the oil embargo is lifted, Iraq will get all the cash and that will be a great concern," he said.



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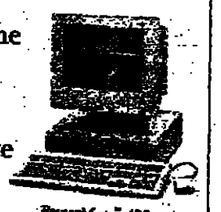
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FBI claims 'core' of New York blast suspects arrested

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN federal authorities say that they have rounded up the "core group" of Arabs responsible for the bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York last month. On Thursday four of the five suspects in custody pleaded not guilty to the attack, some proclaiming their innocence, and yesterday the FBI announced that only one more suspect was being sought.

As New York city officials and federal authorities bask in the glory of an almost unbelievably fast and efficient investigation, quite what this "core group" represents remains unexplained.

As the case unfolds in court, they may emerge as a group of fanatical international terrorists, backed up by a foreign power and determined to destroy the enemies of Islam. At the moment they appear a motley collection of ill-trained, independent plotters. Five people died and more than a thousand were injured in the blast that ripped through the basements of New York's tallest buildings on February 26. One of the accused, Mohammed Salameh, allegedly responsible for renting the van which contained the explosives, returned to the rental agency three times to get his deposit back on a vehicle which he rented in his own name; another, Nidal Ayyad, a chemical engineer, left what the FBI says is bomb-making equipment strewn around his New Jersey home.

Mahmud Abouhalima, the alleged mastermind of the group, who apparently left America soon after the blast, seems to have made little effort to hide himself but went home to his family in Egypt, where he was arrested by the Egyptian authorities.

German police said in Bonn last night that Mr Abouhalima spent five years in Munich in the 1980s. He married twice but was denied political asylum. Munich police were quoted by newspapers as saying Mr Abouhalima had had two children from each of the two German women he married. Marriage to a German gave him the right to stay at least temporarily, with a residency permit until 1986. But he lost that when his wife divorced him, although the police were not able to say exactly when.

In America, the men seem to have made almost no attempt to cover their tracks, to disguise the links between them or to avoid being seen together. For the FBI such evidence is proof of something close to idiocy on the part of the conspirators, but for the lawyers representing the accused the ease with which the suspects were rounded up is indicative of their innocence. Robert Precht, Mr Salameh's lawyer, is adamant that his client is simply "not stupid enough" to leave such an obvious trail for the FBI.

For prosecutors, who say it will take weeks and possibly months to assemble the evidence, the case is far less cut and dried than it first appears. As yet, they have few witnesses, and only an assumed motive, and unless one of the suspects agrees to give evidence against the others in exchange for a promise of leniency, the prosecution faces an uphill task.

Then there are the legal questions surrounding the way Mr Abouhalima, 33, was removed from Egypt and returned to America: no extradition treaty was invoked and the suspect was merely handed over to the FBI after being tortured, he now claims, in an Egyptian prison.

For what it is worth, the suspects' proclamations of innocence from the dock of the US courthouse in Manhattan on Thursday were nothing if not emphatic. "I swear on the Koran, my wife, my children and my family and all I hold dear to me that I am not guilty and had nothing to do with this," Mr Ayyad said. "It's a purely circumstantial case," says Mr Precht, "built in large part on the basis of guilt by association."

William Kunstler, another defence lawyer, is emphatic that the FBI has simply grabbed the nearest available suspects: "You remember the end of the film *Casablanca*?" he quipped. "Round up the usual suspects!"

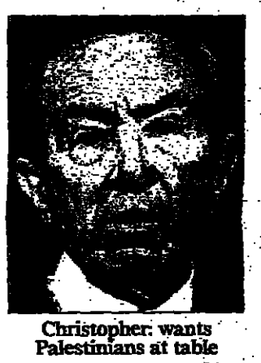
☐ **Cairo:** Muslim militants turned the funeral of Abdel-Rahman Mohammed, 25, into a political demonstration, parading through the southern Egyptian town of Assiut with his body in a coffin, witnesses reported. Police said he was a leader in el-Gama'a el-Islamiya (Islamic Group), whose members have been implicated in the New York bombing. *(Reuter)*

US seeks to revive Middle East talks

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

DIPLOMATIC contacts are under way from Washington to Damascus aimed at reviving the Middle East peace process.

In Washington yesterday, Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, was due to meet Palestinian leaders from the Israeli-occupied territories, to try to persuade them to



Christopher: wants Palestinians at table

attend the next round of talks, scheduled for April 20. In Damascus tomorrow the Arab participants in the talks, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and the Palestinians, are due to formulate a joint position on whether to return to the negotiating table. The stalled 17-month process has been overshadowed by the saga in southern Lebanon of more than 400 Palestinian deportees, who were expelled 100 days ago by Israel because of their suspected membership of banned Islamic militant groups in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The key to unblocking the impasse is likely to be the discussions between Mr Christopher and the overall leader of the Palestinian delegation, Faisal Husseini. The two last met in Jerusalem, during the American envoy's mission to the Middle East in February.

Before leaving for Washington, Palestinian delegates emphasised that they would continue to boycott the peace talks until Israel gave an assurance that it would not resort to mass deportations again. The Clinton administration is expected to make clear that it sees a settlement of the Palestinian issue as fundamental to ending the Arab-Israeli conflict, but it will argue that the Palestinians could risk becoming isolated if they boycott the talks. The Americans are also expected to give Mr Husseini private assurances that Israel will not repeat its expulsion order and a promise that Washington is prepared to make proposals of its own when the talks resume.

Movie moguls vexed by the small print

FROM WILLIAM CASH IN LOS ANGELES

Hollywood has Oscar fever. The awards will be announced on Monday, with Clint Eastwood's *Unforgiven* tipped to sweep the board. British hopes ride on *The Crying Game* and *Howards End*. Lenny Del Genio, the leading odds-maker, is giving *Unforgiven* 9-to-5, with the lower budget, independent British films at 2-to-1.

But Tinseltown's normally ebullient pre-Oscar spirits have been seriously soured by this week's precedent-setting ruling against Kim Basinger for fraud and malice after she walked away from a film four weeks before shooting.

With the entertainment industry contributing $3 billion (£2 billion) a year to the US balance of payments, and Hollywood's executive suites frequently being likened to the trading euphoria on Wall Street in the mid-1980s, the $8.9 million award against Basinger is being seen as a warning not to subscribe to the Ivan Boesky school of Hollywood deal making. The jury decided yesterday not to impose additional punitive damages on Basinger after her lawyer said that she had been "punished ... beyond her means". He estimated her net worth at $5.3 million.

The next actress due in court after a dispute over a verbal agreement is Whoopi Goldberg, who is being sued after allegedly walking away from a film called *T Rex*, in which she had agreed to play the part of a policewoman who is sexual partner to a dinosaur. She told the studio that a condition of her starring in the film was that *Cheers* star Ted Danson, with whom she is involved, should do the "voiceover" for the dinosaur. After the studio agreed, Goldberg said she was too busy to take the part. The original agreed fee had been £5 million.

Clearly the days of agents thinking they can rule the world on a $500,000 salary, long-distance telephone line and a rampaging ego are over. As Peter O'Donnell, the entertainment lawyer, said after the Basinger ruling: "The decision sends a message to Hollywood that you had better not fall into accidental contracts."

In a town where mendacity is widely viewed as an art form, with contracts regularly drawn up after a film has been completed and multi-million-dollar deals put together over the car phone or on the racketball court, the Basinger precedent will ensure that actors choose their words cautiously when discussing their interest in a script with a producer or director.

It is not only big stars such as Basinger who are showered with praise wherever they go. Everyone from make-up artists to unemployed screen hacks are caught up in a crazy culture of eternal optimism, which has led to the saying that Hollywood is the only town where you could die of encouragement. It used to be considered the star's natural right to walk away from projects, cancel chat show bookings, and demand (à la Basinger) such fringe perks as having their personal hair stylist flown over to the set from New York at a cost of $3,000 a day. The Basinger ruling has dented Hollywood's egos.

The ruling is being seen not simply as a vindication of Hollywood business methods but also as a victory for the rising rank of independent film makers in the Hollywood "statusphere". As this year's Oscar nominations testify, it has been a dour year for many of the big studios with a swamp of seemingly pointless and plotless sequels (for example, *Vietnam Returns*, *Alien 3*) that have bored audiences and diminished the once all-powerful authority of the studios.

As Julian Sands, who plays the doctor in *Boxing Helena*, the independent film that Basinger was meant to have starred in, said, "the ruling shows that independent films need to be taken seriously in this town and that the days of studios riding roughshod over serious film makers are over."

Tinseltown has begun to see a general dissatisfaction setting in over the high-handed way in which many stars seem to conduct themselves. Basinger proved in court that there was a chasm of difference between her perceived glamorous image and her reality as a 39-year-old woman who seemed to have trouble with basic conversational skills. The public are becoming wise to the complacency and patronising diet of junk celebrity journalism and junk films that are condescendingly thrust on the public. The Basinger case has proved a turning point. In a town where in recent years everything seems to have been blown out of size, the swing back to basics is exemplified by the victory of Carl Mazzocone, 34, president of Mainline Pictures. A self-styled "little guy", he has become the Hollywood hero of the hour by taking on the big guys and winning.

The $8.9 million he was awarded certainly seems more than his film is likely to make at the box office. People who have seen *Boxing Helena* either think it is a masterpiece or hate it. There is no middle ground.



Too busy: Whoopi Goldberg, who is being sued after walking away from a film in which, for £5 million, she was to have been the sexual partner of a dinosaur

Clinton's wizardry wins over Congress

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE political stock of President Clinton, who was being written off just a few weeks back as another Jimmy Carter, is suddenly soaring.

At the end of a week which saw the Senate join the House in approving the outlines of Mr Clinton's $500 billion (£340 billion) deficit-reduction plan, the president is now being compared to Lyndon Johnson in his command of Congress, and to Ronald Reagan for his ability to galvanise the public.

That legislative victory has eclipsed the stumbling start of his presidency, and even enemies now concede he has tactical and strategic flair. "He is as formidable a political figure as I've seen in my lifetime," said Ed Rollins, a leading Republican.

The greased passage of Mr Clinton's economic blueprint was remarkable. The plan includes the largest tax increases in American history and some of the deepest spending cuts. It was given practically no chance of getting through Congress in anything like its original form, yet only 11 of 255 House Democrats and two of 57 Democratic senators voted against it.

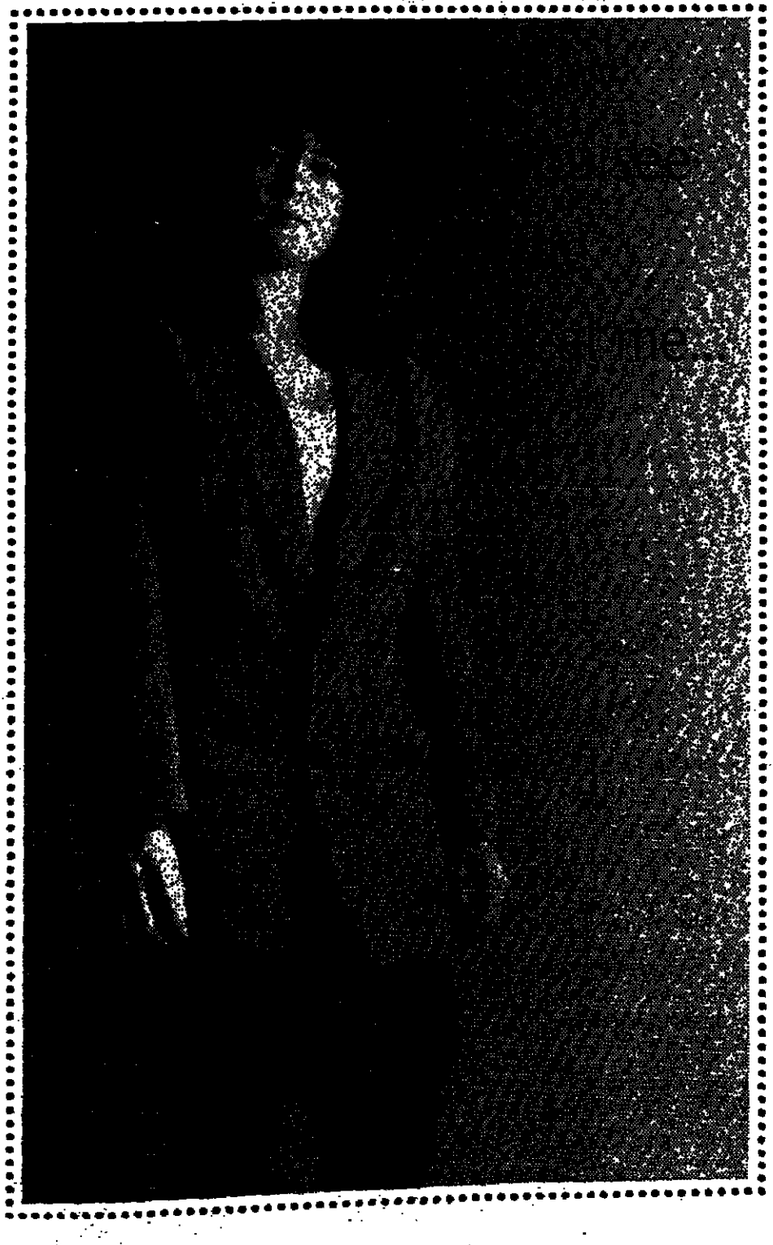
The only divisions in a Democratic party once dismissed as a squabbling coalition of profligate pressure groups were over the desirability of even deeper cuts and whether a $16 billion short-term stimulus package was necessary. On the latter Mr Clinton could yet be defeated.

Public pressure, personal flattery and a touch of intimidation have been the presidential tools. After lambasting Congress during the campaign, Mr Clinton has since coddled it at every opportunity. He has surrounded himself with veterans of Capitol Hill steeped in all its foibles.

He met and wrote to all 255 House Democrats before their vote. He has obtained lists of congressmen who would like to jog with him.

Sitting in a Damascus hotel room one night, Senator James Jeffords, a moderate Vermont Republican, was flabbergasted to receive a call from Mr Clinton, thanking him for legislative support. But when Senator Richard Shelby, an Alabama Democrat, criticised the economic plan, the White House moved a 90-job space-shuttle project out of his state to Texas.

Mr Clinton must be the first president to rise in the polls after demanding big tax rises. But some really hard tests are ahead. Mr Clinton must soon persuade Congress to reform health care and lift the ban on homosexuals in the military, and both those will require every ounce of his acumen.



China line on airport softens

FROM JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

CHINA'S top official in charge of Hong Kong affairs said yesterday that the colony's £16 billion airport could be operational by the time Britain pulls out on June 30, 1997, and he hoped that talks on the transfer of sovereignty could resume soon.

The remarks by Lu Ping, coming just days after his warning that Peking would adopt an "unco-operative attitude" to talks on Hong Kong's transitional affairs if Chris Patten, the governor, tabled political reform bills in the local legislature, were seen as conciliatory, and the stock market rose 1.5 per cent.

However, Mr Lu, the director of China's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, set no date for the resumption of talks in the Sino-British joint liaison group. He said that it was up to Britain to observe the terms of the memorandum of understanding on the airport, which was signed by John Major in Peking in 1991, an indication that China will not allow the airport project to go ahead in the present political climate.

In a closed door meeting with Hong Kong and Macau representatives at the National People's Congress in Peking, he is reported to have said that he thought completion of the airport by 1997 was unlikely.

☐ **Peking:** Li Ruihuan, a member of the Communist party politburo's standing committee and a moderate, was last night appointed chairman of the Chinese people's political consultative conference, a government advisory body. He replaces a hardliner, Li Xiannian, who died last year. *(AFP)*

NEWS IN BRIEF

De Klerk calls up reservists

Johannesburg: South Africa is calling up 21,000 white army reservists next week to patrol troubled areas of the country *(Michael Hamlyn writes)*. The move is part of a £2.2 million plan which was promised by President de Klerk this week.

The black community says that this dramatic reaction to the random killings of white commuters outside Johannesburg is out of proportion to the government's more relaxed attitude to the vicious campaign of violence between rival black political groups.

Explosives haul

Bombay: Police seized about 3,291lb of explosives from a building site near here, similar to those used in bombs that killed about 300 people in Bombay two weeks ago. *(AFP)*

Mine payment

Tokyo: Mitsui Mining, Japan's biggest coal mining company, is to pay £605,000 to 36 families for negligence in a 1963 mining disaster that killed 458 people. *(Reuter)*

In the doghouse

Santa Ana: Two Colombians accused of importing kennels made of glass fibre and cocaine into California pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Each 50lb kennel would have yielded 15lb of the drug. *(AP)*

Living on tick

Pittsburgh: Otto Tamplin, 30, a repair man, was left dangling from his belt for 20 minutes on an eight-storey building after the hand of a clock on which he was working broke. He was rescued unhurt. *(AP)*



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PARKINSON'S DISEASE SOCIETY

T1/61

Alexander Chancellor in New York



■ The Queen Mother of the Clinton court has been sent to Paris as US ambassador — at the age of 73

I happened to come across Pamela Harriman in New York this week on the day President Clinton announced he was sending her to Paris as his ambassador. I hardly spoke to her, except to ask whether she had any illegal aliens as servants who might jeopardise her confirmation by the Senate (she answered, no), but I was impressed, as everybody always is, by her poise, her charm, and her almost miraculous state of preservation at 73.

The occasion of this encounter was a party to celebrate the American publication of Roy Jenkins' autobiography, *A Life at the Centre*, and I thought that this title should perhaps have been reserved for a biography of Mrs Harriman. For, since 1940 when she moved into 10 Downing Street as Winston Churchill's young daughter-in-law, she has lived almost continuously at the centre of important circles of power: first in London, then in Paris and New York, and finally, since her marriage to the millionaire American statesman Averell Harriman, in Washington DC.

The apotheosis of her career as a Democratic hostess and power-broker came last year with the election of Bill Clinton as the first Democratic president in more than a decade. In 1960, several years after her divorce from Randolph Churchill, she married the celebrated Broadway and Hollywood producer Leland Hayward, who perhaps trained her in the art of talent-spotting. In any event, in 1981 she brilliantly spotted Mr Clinton, a defeated, one-term governor of Arkansas, and put him on the board of a new fundraising organisation, Democrats for the Eighties, with which she planned to revitalise the Democrats. Through her efforts, Democrats for the Eighties was to collect and spend about $12 million over the next ten years, and was to make a vital contribution to Mr Clinton's victory.

Since then Mrs Harriman has been called the Queen Mother of the Clinton court, and, despite her racy past, there does now seem to be something rather regal about her. The last time I saw her before this week was on Inauguration Day in Washington, where she created around her a little island of calm amid the general turmoil. While the dinner-jacketed multitudes stormed ballroom after ballroom to catch glimpses of Bill and Hillary on their triumphal progress around town, Mrs Harriman stayed quietly at home in her handsome Georgetown mansion with her Picasso, her Renoir and her Van Gogh. There, in majestic style, she entertained almost everybody else of importance in the Democratic party, including all the senior members of Mr Clinton's cabinet. Earlier, at the height of the celebrations, she had been interviewed about the new president, and credited him with Churchillian qualities of resilience and resolution. It was as if all the events in her tumultuous life had achieved a happy synthesis.

> Paris was the scene of several romances, but it also taught her to speak French

Everyone agreed that Mrs Harriman should receive some political reward commensurate with her extraordinary contribution to the revival of the Democratic party, but the question was what it should be. A major embassy abroad was an obvious possibility, but some insiders thought that even that would not be good enough for her; indeed she herself had said: "I haven't waited to get a president for 12 years to then depart Washington." But in the end an embassy seemed to be the only practical solution. Her friends say that she could have had London if she had wanted it — but, if so, she was wise to dismiss the idea. Although she has been an American citizen since her marriage to Averell Harriman in 1971, she was born and brought up in Britain as the privileged daughter of the 11th Baron Digby, and her only child, Winston, is a Conservative Member of Parliament. In such circumstances, it would have been uncomfortable for her to represent America in Britain. Another reason for her rejecting London may well have been the British press, which could have been counted upon to keep her under relentless scrutiny.

An ambassador's job may not be as important now as it used to be, but Paris has the largest of all the American embassies, and Mrs Harriman will be the first woman to serve there. Paris, where she lived for several years after the war — between her first two marriages — was the scene of some of her romantic attachments (among them Gianni Agnelli, Elie de Rothschild and Prince Aly Khan), but it also taught her to speak French, which is more than some other American ambassadors to France have been able to do. And in recent weeks she has been preparing assiduously for the job.

Having always relied principally on her influence over men to get what she wants, Mrs Harriman has been often portrayed as a calculating seeker after money and power. But especially since Averell Harriman's death in 1986, she has proved herself serious, hardworking and conscientious in pursuit of her political goals. Now is the time, then, to raise a glass to her achievement, which should be seen as a triumph of British initiative, enterprise and grit.

For all its statistical success, Japan's educational system produces few innovators, says **Joe Joseph**

Tokyo's reformers go back to school

A man with toothache, as George Bernard Shaw reminded us "thinks everyone happy whose teeth are sound", which is worth remembering before we start getting too envious of the Japanese.

When you know that not everything is rosy in our schools, and then a report says that 80 per cent of Japanese 18-year-olds have the equivalent of a couple of A-levels, compared with a skinny 29 per cent in England, it is tempting to assume that there must be lots to learn from the Japanese. Something, certainly, but how much exactly? It may jolt Westerners to know that Japan is having second thoughts about its own Alpha-plus education system.

What most Japanese children do after a day at school is to go to another school, which teaches them an awful lot about plankton and the annual rainfall in Hokkaido but does not leave much time for running and jumping. A country that chooses rice as its staple food and chopsticks as the implement with which to eat it is a country that is not hungry for an easy life. But does dawn-to-dusk education show how keen and bright Japanese children are, or is there something wrong with the education system if regular school hours are not enough to produce Japan's next generation of Toyota engineers?

Japan is starting to question whether a regime that prizes facts more highly than Gradgrind, and exam success above everything, is the best way to produce leaders who can run the world's newest superpower and explain Tokyo's views to allies who still find "the Japanese way" as remote as the Milky Way.

At a time when politicians in America and Britain are calling for a little less *laisser faire* in the classroom to repair the cracks in their children's knowledge, Japan's education machine looks enviable. Talk of any kind of crisis in education in Japan makes many other countries gawp in disbelief. Japan's scientists produce some pretty brainy microchips. Business acumen is evident in Japan's still healthy trade figures. Shop assistants in Tokyo do not reach for the pocket calculator to tot up two 100 yen purchases. More than 95 per cent of Japanese children stay at school until the age of 18. Then 37 per cent go on to tertiary education. This timetable produces a 99.7 per cent literacy rate, but makes family life impossible. Young children in Japan, often out until 10 or 11 every night at one of the country's 35,000 private cram colleges, are suffering from the same stresses as office executives. Like their parents, they are complaining of insomnia and muscular tension. Unlike their fathers, they cannot wind down with a whisky and a geisha.

Even the notoriously stuffy conservatives in Japan's education ministry have concluded that there is too much pressure on students, that school rules are too rigorous, that there is too much emphasis on cramming, and, to put it simply, that spending all the waking hours of one's formative years in a classroom has its drawbacks.

Ask any Japanese and you will hear complaint after complaint about the gruesome Darwinian struggle that begins before kindergarten. But every parent knows that he or she alone is not powerful enough to break a well-signposted system in which the right school leads to the right university which leads to the right job (still usually for life), which carries the social cachet and financial benefits that could lead to the right spouse. Bafflingly, after all the pointless facts the student has learnt to recite, it is a life of leisure once through the university gate. Even the education ministry admits that students understand only about half their lectures, that they read fewer than three books a month and that they see their university years as a time to make friends, drink, and meet members of the opposite sex. Graduating is usually a formality, and bears little relation to the quality of a student's work. Most companies prefer to submit new employees to in-house training programmes anyway, so they are not much fussed about whether or not their newly hired staff can chat comfortably about existentialism.

Japan is now being stung into discussing the drawbacks of its education system by fears that if it does not start producing opinion formers with original things to say and the courage and latitude to say them, it will not be able to jump from being a nation of car and television manufacturers to being an inspired co-leader of the free world. Students who are discouraged from asking questions in class are poorly equipped to dream up new and cogent solutions to old social, economic or political ills. And Japan is aware that it has yet to deliver a reliable stream of Nobel laureates. As an anguished leader writer for *The Japan Times* put it, "How is it that America can transmute an often poorly served high-school student into a brilliant postgraduate scientist or historian? That is the educational magic we still need to learn."

Even defining the problem is a headache. According to Ikuo Amano, a professor of education at Tokyo university: "The very meaning of 'to think' is not well understood in our culture. To us it means something like 'to find an answer which can be shared by others'." Oh golly.

Joe Joseph was the Times correspondent in Japan 1988-91. His book The Japanese *has just been published by Viking at £15.99.*

Watching children die

After the numb anguish, how should we react to images of a child's death?



Detail from *Saturn*: like television today, Goya forced his audience to witness death close up

How to react to the death of a child? Susan McHugh of Dublin knew what to do. On hearing of the carnage of the Warrington bomb, she booked a meeting room, phoned a radio station and organised a peace march. I did no such thing. I sat numb with horror, my blood alternately boiling and turning to ice. I suppose like millions of others, I wanted summary justice or I wanted to know nothing at all. I felt inadequate.

This was a week in which an extraordinary number of children seem to have died. We watched a daily round of unknown adults deep in grief: the brave father of Warrington's Tim Parry, the parents of children lost on a Dorset canoe trip, soldiers sobbing over a girl killed on the Srebrenica landing strip.

Sympathy for strangers does not come naturally. We must imagine ourselves in their shoes, our own children dead, ourselves sitting before the cameras, teeth clenched, white-knuckled. That soon becomes a painful intrusion on our privacy. There is nothing as unbearable as the death of a child.

Time was when communication put some gulf between us and the tragedies of others. Distance removed us from the scene. The newspaper reporter mediated the horror. The photographer presented a static post mortem. Only a Goya sought to make his audiences witness the moment of death, soldiers skewering children, garrotting boys, shooting women out of some mindless instinct of war. He was accused of glorying in sadism. No artist since has taken quite the same liberties with our emotions.

Now the television camera is trying. The camera last week took me to the battlefield, the hospital, the morgue, and did so within hours of the events described. I switched on a television one evening and my study rang to the screams of a Bosnian child being operated on without anaesthetic. It could have been any child — thousands are suffering like this every minute — but the television's taunt was that it could be mine. Thick-skinned I may be, but I was not steeled for this shock. I had not first travelled to the theatre of war and acclimatised myself to its horrors. I was indeed shocked. Had I been upset by fictional violence or racist abuse, I would have been protected by censors. Here I was exposed.

Our initial reaction to such traumas is physical. We wish to do something, anything, to stop the evil. Auden wrote that when a tyrant cries, a child dies. Children are dying. We must find the tyrant. Enough is enough. Mr Milosevic. Democracy must put an end to your obscenities, to your mortar bombs and throat slittings and starvations. The might of the West will teach you a lesson. In Northern Ireland too, enough is enough. Bring back anything to stop the killings. Bring back internment, bring in more troops, bring back capital punishment. We must wage a new war — as we waged every old war — to end all wars. We cannot go on being upset by television.

Simon Jenkins

Mrs McHugh's response is more rational than this. I do not think her action will bear fruit. Ireland's murderous fringe has long scorned peace movements. The paramilitary gangs have neither the political will nor the relevant moral equipment to accede to them. Killing is their culture and revenge is their motive. All Mrs McHugh can do is relieve the boiling of the blood and the frustration that follows it. She can help the world convalesce from another week of compulsory voyeurism.

The conventional wisdom is that shocks do us good. We should all know more about death, and dead children are quick tutors. We should appreciate that war is terrible and killing means suffering — even though the dissemination of grief is the oxygen of terrorism. If a child dies, we should all be there at its bedside, the better to count our blessings and stir ourselves for a fight. If parents shed tears, we owe it to our common humanity to shed them too, however great the intrusion. Dickens knew the potency of such scenes. *The Nine O'Clock News* is the modern curiosity shop. Every night Little Nell dies.

There is force in this argument, but I am not sure how much. Wars start in irrational responses to tragedies. In the first place, the camera is massively partial. As many in Northern Ireland bitterly asked this week, why does it take an English child's death to rouse the nation? There have been dead children aplenty in Ulster. Why do we grieve over a murdered Muslim child and not a Serbian one: is a Serbian child somehow marginally less "innocent"? If we goad ourselves into unleashing bombs on Milosevic, what of the children we then kill? Bombs are notoriously unselective in their targets. Will we now be the ones to visit the sins of the fathers on the sons?

We all kill children. The Americans killed children in Vietnam. Some cheered two years ago as British bombs rained down on Iraqi cities. We knew that they would kill children, and they did. The bombing was of scant military value; it was primarily designed to terrorise the population. Such is modern war, and we are clearly not going to renounce it. We light a fuse, fire a mortar, drop a bomb, without thought for who will die. We talk technological gibberish about laser targeting and surgical strikes. Goya's bayonets were precision weapons by comparison. His killers had to look their victims in the eye.

A letter in yesterday's *Times* protested at the use of "innocent" before every reference to child casualties of terrorism. It was, said Richard Graham, a slur on murdered soldiers and policemen to whom the epithet is not applied. He was right. But we do react more fiercely to the death of a child in war or at the terrorists' hands. Our emotions are injured in a peculiar way. Childhood is a kingdom of innocence where none are supposed to die. A dead child is a special affront because a child bears no blame. It does not vote, does not fight, cannot escape. It is also our future.

Once our anger has died, we are left with the same old obligation: to keep our heads and be sensible. Merely reacting to violence and its perpetrators cannot supplant common sense, as it has done for years of direct rule in Northern Ireland. Nor should it be used as a pretext for drawing British troops into a Serbian war. We cannot join John Major in "understanding less and condemning more". We must absorb the awful images of the past week, put them out of mind and return to the graft of thinking what best to do.

Of reds and blues

FIVE YEARS after Kim Philby's death, his widow Rufa is attempting to sell the story of how he was recruited by the KGB while at Cambridge in the early 1930s. The material was written by Philby in 1968 for his autobiography, *My Silent War*, but judicious KGB editing ensured that it never appeared.

Rufa Philby, his Russian fourth wife, is close to completing a deal with a national newspaper, believed to be the *Sunday Telegraph*, for about £6,000. But in doing so, she has upset the publisher Random House, which spent a much larger sum of hard currency on securing access to the KGB files. In June the company is publishing *Deadly Illusions*, which contains what it claims to be official KGB files from the period describing the "real story" of Philby's recruitment. It is desperate not to be scooped.

John Costello, who wrote *Deadly Illusions* with Oleg Tsarev, a former KGB officer, claims to tell the true story. "We tell the story of Aleksandr Orlov, the KGB agent who recruited Philby, Burgess, Maclean and Blunt. No one else has access to this material."

Rupert Allason, the spy-writer and Tory MP for Torbay, has been watching the saga warily. "The story of Philby's recruitment is still interesting. It is the one area he drew a veil over in *My Silent War*."

Although Allason has not read Rufa Philby's material, he is sceptical about its historical worth. "I have heard from the KGB that when Philby died they searched his flat. They saw the documents that Rufa is selling and left them because they contained nothing revelatory."

● *Michel Rocard, the former French prime minister, looks a desperate man. To be re-elected mayor of Conflans Sainte Honorine tomorrow he needs to win over at least 5,000 of the voters who abstained in last week's first round. No easy task when campaigning has to be conducted under the unresting gaze of up to 40 camera crews, plus assorted newspaper and radio journalists. Yesterday his campaign office decided enough was enough. Reporters and camera crews would not be allowed to accompany Rocard on his crucial final rounds. "They're frightening the voters," explained an aide. Not to mention the candidate.*

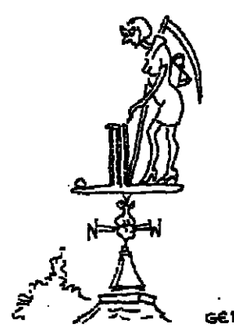
DIARY

The great unread?

JOHN MAJOR'S love of Anthony Trollope, the Victorian novelist to whom he unveiled a memorial stone in Westminster Abbey on Thursday, has not impressed everyone. Lord Healey, speaking most appositely at the Royal Society of Literature the same day, on why politicians "should read more books", suspects Major has not read any Trollope at all. "I am not convinced that John Major has read Trollope," he said. "I suspect it is all a publicity stunt."

Mikhail Gorbachev is another who does not rate highly in Healey's literary esteem. A month ago Healey led a delegation of Labour MPs to Moscow. "We met in the Gorbachev Foundation — and got into a big argument. Gorbachev claimed that Georgia willingly joined Russia. I was astonished. Anyone who has read Dostoevsky or Lermontov could never think that. It turned out he hadn't read either."

● *Earlier this week, Roger Knight, former captain of Sur-*



GED

rey, was appointed secretary to the MCC, having successfully seen off some 250 rivals for cricket's top administrative post. But spare a thought for the one female applicant to that bastion of male chauvinism, whose hopeful letter began "I have just been made redundant, but have good typing and shorthand skills". Her time may come ... but not, one fears, quite yet.

Many are called

THE row over the ordination of women priests has spread to Westminster. This week there were stormy scenes at the Parliamentary Ecclesiastical Committee, with one MP calling for a confidence vote in the committee's chairman Lord Templeman.

The issue at stake seems so arcane as to be almost theological — whether after questioning the Synod's legislative committee, the parliamentary committee could call more witnesses if it wished — but it certainly raised hackles. According to one MP, Templeman "tried to steamroller the rest of us to his view".

Others felt otherwise, resulting in an unusual alliance of John Gummer, a vociferous opponent of women priests and Frank Field, a supporter. Field says: "I do not think any of us have been at a committee quite like it."

In the end, the alliance triumphed and voted, despite Templeman's opposition, to call non-Synod witnesses. But in the wake of the decision the holy alliance is already showing signs of cracking. "They are only taking evidence from supporters of women priests," moans Gummer.

● *The management of Dolphin Square is clearly doing all it can to make Princess Anne and her new husband, Commander Tim Laurence, feel at home in their new London flat. The block has just acquired its first guard dog, a Dobermann pinscher. His name? Prince.*





Floating Tory voters

It may be as well that the political ambitions of Edwina Currie (*above right*) now lie in Brussels because her West-minster seat, Derbyshire South, is about to become rather marginal. The Boundary Commission is proposing to move over 8,000 mainly Tory middle-class people out of the constituency, subject to ratification, by the next election. With a majority of only 4,600, Currie's constituency looks well vulnerable.

But the Labour party should not start celebrating too soon. A large tranche of the middle-class vote, from Mickleover, is likely to be transferred to the neighbouring constituency of Derby South, seat of Labour's deputy leader, Margaret Beckett.

Beckett (*above left*) has already been briefed about the potential dangers. In 1983 her majority was only 421. In 1987 it was 1,500. On either occasion, Labour strategists admit, she would have lost if the changes had already come into effect. But with a majority of 6,900 at the last election Beckett will doubtless put up a good fight.

NUCLEAR PERILS

Rogue regimes must not be allowed to join the nuclear club

For many people, the Cold War was synonymous with the threat of nuclear extinction. Yet as Richard Nixon recently remarked, while many people believed that the Soviet Union was an evil empire, few thought it was mad. The same cannot be said of the potential next generation of nuclear powers: nuclear weapons proliferation is back in the headlines this month. But the end of the Cold War has also made possible harrowing discoveries about another nuclear threat: that posed by more than 60 nuclear power stations scattered through the former Soviet empire. About a third of them are so dangerous that the only safe course is decommissioning: only 18 have safety features matching those in the West.

The wind blows where it lists, respecting no frontiers: for western Europe, nuclear accident is as present a danger as malevolent nuclear designs. Whether the public should most fear the nuclear catastrophe of a meltdown at the Sosovny-Bor plant outside Leningrad, or the emergence of an "Islamic bomb", is less clear.

So urgent are both concerns that it is idle to talk about priorities. In nuclear energy, governments need to do much more. These plants cannot simply be shut down. Hungary derives half its energy from nuclear sources and some regions of Russia are almost entirely dependent on it. Estimates of the cost of a basic safety programme range from $8 billion to $20 billion, of which less than $300 million has been put on the table by the West. With the exception of the acutely dangerous and ill-maintained Kozloduy reactors in Bulgaria, almost no work has begun. But the picture is changing, as the West's nuclear power industry competes for shares in the East's nuclear energy markets; and the cardinal difference between bombs and nuclear energy, of course, is that there is a solid mutual interest among publics as well as governments in making the latter safe.

On the global scale, there is disquieting evidence that the hitherto remarkably successful effort to contain the spread of nuclear weapons is faltering. The breakup of the Soviet Union aroused keen Western anxiety about the risk of nuclear proliferation: so does the thought of Russia itself collapsing into a dozen or more mini-states. The well-advertised fear that republics might use the giant former Soviet arsenal against each other, if anarchy turned the Commonwealth of Independent States into "a nuclear-armed Yugoslavia", may be apocalyptic. Less so is the West's anxiety about either open sale or the development of a black market in nuclear weapons, raw materials, technology and trained manpower.

The statistics are terrifying: the ex-Soviet Union contains 27,000 nuclear weapons of all kinds, stockpiles of some 850 tons of plutonium and enriched uranium and 3,000 of the world's best nuclear weapons scientists. They are also misleading: it is simple neither to deploy an off-the-shelf nuclear bomb (most have secret safety devices) nor to dismantle one for its nuclear core, and the preferred destination of most top scientists is neither Libya nor — although some were almost lured there last year — North Korea.

Equipment and raw materials are, however, relatively easily traded; and of the demand, there is no doubt. Although South Africa this week became the first country ever to announce that it has destroyed its nuclear arsenal and renounced its nuclear weapons capability, North Korea — a paranoid Stalinist dictatorship which almost certainly has the capacity and the will to produce a nuclear bomb — has just become the first to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Pyongyang has until March 31 to change its mind; if it does not, the world must react with utmost resolution. If North Korea is not prevented from going nuclear, South Korea, Japan and possibly Taiwan would probably follow suit. The existence of unofficial members of the nuclear club, such as India, Pakistan and Israel, has already weakened the non-proliferation regime: failure to stop North Korea (which is suspected of sharing technology and, possibly, raw materials with Iran) would discredit it worldwide. Iraq and South Africa prove that technical difficulties are no longer a serious obstacle: given time, any reasonably proficient technical team can acquire the know-how. The Cold War may be over, but the war against rogue regimes with nuclear ambitions is entering a new and increasingly delicate phase.

POWER OF THE PULPIT

Big things are still most powerfully said by sermons

Yesterday's moving sermon by the Rt Rev Michael Langrish, Bishop of Birkenhead, at the funeral of three-year-old Jonathan Ball, a victim of the Warrington bomb blast, gave fine rhetorical focus to the nation's outrage. In his testimony to a "little boy brimming with life", the bishop rejected unlawful revenge with a passion that should chill the terrorist's heart. "The anger I feel today is an anger born of righteousness," he proclaimed, "an anger born of concern for what is right, just and true against evil."

Of all the noble expressions of grief heard since the blast, this was perhaps the most powerful in its choice of language and stately delivery. It illustrated the forgotten potential of fine preaching to inspire and unite a community. When Martin Niemöller preached against Nazi oppression and "the Tempter's machine-gun fire" in 1937, he spoke for the battered German conscience. Martin Luther King's fiery sermons united a generation against racial discrimination. So too the Bishop of Birkenhead's address has given voice to an anguish felt on both sides of the Irish Sea.

In recent times, preaching has become a craft despised, and "sermon" a pejorative word in our debased lexicon. Newspapers, weekly magazines and television talk shows have supplanted the role of the Church as interpreter of the world and the word; and Christianity, a faith rooted in the Sermon on the Mount, must now compete with a Babel of voices claiming moral authority.

Hogarth's famous cartoon of slumbering parishioners suggests that English preaching has long been of variable quality. Sacramentalist Anglicans, furthermore, have campaigned hard through the centuries to give the altar precedence over the pulpit. One of the Oxford Movement's tracts proclaimed that preaching was "an instrument which Scripture ... has never recommended".

But the English preaching tradition is deeply rooted and durable. Before mass literacy, the pulpit was a fundamental instrument of authority and one which Elizabeth I guarded jealously by permitting only licensed clergymen to preach. Parliamentary proclamations as well as holy instruction were delivered in sermons. Impoverished priests relied on their preaching skills to attract a congregation that would pay sufficient pew rents to the parish.

From this tradition have sprung preachers of the calibre of John Donne, Archbishop John Tillotson, the Archbishop of Canterbury 1691-5, and the current Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood. In the last decade, the evangelical revival has sparked the beginning of a return to preaching, which Anglicans of all theological hues should follow. The Bishop of Birkenhead's stately anger, televised and reprinted throughout the world, may help redeem the preacher's craft. If the Church wishes to be a force in a modern secular society, it must share its witness with the same rhetorical passion.

AMOROUSLY CORRECT

Romantic fiction can bear only so much reality

With pounding heart, and with her voice throbbing with pent-up emotion, Audrey broke the bad news to Luke. Mills & Boon, their favourite publisher, in whose romantic Never Never Land they and their friends with such fragrant names as Elliot and Salome lived and moved and had their only being, was going to ruin everything by coming out into the crude world of reality.

Theirs was a private world that revolved around relationships between the sexes but avoided direct use or description of the unromantic little three-letter word, s-x. But now Mills & Boon had decided to introduce "safe sex" into their oeuvre. She knew that Luke was not going to like it, and she was right. "Help me, Audrey," he commanded huskily, his eyes darkening. "I do not see how they can bring in such things without destroying the romance that we live for and make our livings from."

Piqued and irritated, Audrey literally had to plaster her smile in place. There were formulaic ways of writing about these messier parts of love without frightening the punters by calling a spade a contraceptive. For instance, "I must attend to certain matters, Audrey," he rasped, "before I forget." Or, "Should we stop at the chemist's on the way?" Luke chuckled. "Or shall we be daring and leave matters up to fate?"

Audrey sighed gustily. The problem, she knew, was how to reconcile prurience with puritanism. Recently the romantic but chaste pages of their genre had taken on board divorce, Aids, rape, illegitimacy and orgasms, in the quietest possible way. Homosexuality was still taboo, of course. But the phenomenal and enduring success of their archetype of romantic fiction, with the books selling at the rate of one every two seconds in more than 20 languages in 100 countries, panted for itself.

Cynics might sneer and attempt to parody the style, but never with the conviction of the true believers. Mills & Boon sold 15 million books a year to a loyal congregation, who needed to move with the times, but not too fast. To inform them about the prudence of safe sex reached parts of the population that other advertising and news could never reach. This was a civic duty that marched in step with the eternal obligations of hearts and flowers. The trouble was that the loyal readers were mystified, and wrote in to ask what was going on at the chemist's. And Mills & Boon heroes were such unreconstructed cads, with an aversion to anything so wimpish as contraception. Romantic fiction needs to keep up with the times, but it has an archaic problem with its men that goes back at least as far as Greek tragedy. Audrey's slim arms slid around Luke's neck, pressing his face to her throat, and she strangled him convulsively, winsomely but cheerfully into the real world.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Electorate 'misled' over prospective tax increases

From Dr John Wells

Sir, Government ministers, from the Prime Minister, Chancellor and Chief Secretary downwards, have sought to explain the prospective tax increases announced during the recent Budget — tax increases which are clearly in breach of promises made during the 1992 general election campaign — in the following manner.

The reasonably up-beat forecasts for growth and public borrowing which were contained in the 1992 Budget statement immediately preceding the general election — and which underlay the subsequent electoral commitment to finance planned increases in public spending and achieve medium-term budget balance without resort to increased taxation — were subsequently overtaken by unexpected, adverse developments in the world economy.

The latter, according to government ministers, "blew the British economy off course", causing the recession to be longer and deeper than expected and, given the consequential explosion of the PSBR (public-sector borrowing requirement), forcing the government to raise taxation in clear breach of electoral promises.

However, your readers might be interested to know that Treasury officials succeeded, at the time of the 1992 Budget, in forecasting the main features of the international environment in which the UK economy would be operating during 1992 with almost complete accuracy.

Thus, according to the Budget Red Books, forecasts (F) for 1992 compare with outcomes (O) for 1993 as follows: growth in real GDP in G7 countries — F, 1.5 per cent and O, 1.5 per cent; growth in world manufacturing trade volumes — F, 4 per cent and O, 4.5 per cent.

It follows that the discrepancies between the relatively up-beat forecasts presented in the 1992 Budget and the actual outcome must lie in over-optimistic views regarding both the evolution of domestic economic variables (consumption and investment) relating to the pace and timing of domestic economic recovery and the performance of the UK traded sector, given the international environment.

It is the excessively rosy scenario applied to these parts of the 1992 Budget forecast which lies behind the view that government misled the electorate as regards both the country's immediate economic prospects and the possibility that taxes might have to be raised; not any unforeseen deterioration in world economic conditions — which were, in fact, perfectly anticipated by Treasury forecasters.

Yours,
JOHN WELLS,
University of Cambridge,
Faculty of Economics and Politics,
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge.
March 26.

Measuring the cost of Chancellor's VAT intentions

From Mr David Bridgeman

Sir, On June 24, 1991, European Community finance ministers decided that member states should apply a standard rate of VAT not lower than 15 per cent from January 1, 1993. This decision was taken within the framework of a decisive and unanimous political agreement on the abolition of tax frontiers and the approximation of VAT and excise-duty rates (*Approximation of Taxes: Why? Europe on the Move*, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, L2985 Luxembourg, 1991).

States have the option of applying one or two reduced rates, not lower than 5 per cent, and retaining zero-rating for a transitional period after 1993.

Under the definitive taxation system it is intended that VAT shall be charged from January 1, 1997, in the country in which goods are produced. In effect, it seems that by then zero-rated goods and services may be subject to a VAT minimum of 15 per cent.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID BRIDGEMAN,
East Berkshire College,
Business and Finance Department,
Boyn Hill Avenue,
Maidenhead, Berkshire.
March 26.

From Mr Chris Rose and others

Sir, The decision to impose VAT on domestic fuel has led to considerable public debate and concern regarding fuel poverty. Along with increased transport fuel costs, higher energy costs will be an essential component of an integrated strategy aimed at paying a truer price for energy use (for example due to pollution damage) and encouraging greater energy efficiency and conservation.

The Budget measures barely scratch the surface of this issue, and may be a manoeuvre to head off the carbon/energy tax proposed by the European Commission. From an environmental point of view, they are welcome nevertheless.

It is absolutely essential, however, that low-income households are compensated through means such as the social security system for higher domestic fuel prices. In addition, much greater public and private investment is needed in energy conservation and efficiency.

In particular, low-income households are in greatest need of grant-aid and other assistance to finance and install energy-conserving measures. Similarly, public transport needs greater investment.

Such an approach would help to square the circle of raising fuel costs to the benefit of everyone's environment, without endangering the health and lives of those on low incomes. The government must add this missing component to its "green" budget initiative.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS ROSE
(Programme Director, Greenpeace),
JANET BARBER
(Programmes Director, World Wide Fund for Nature),
FIONA REYNOLDS
(Director, Council for the Protection of Rural England),
CHARLES SECRETT
(Director, Friends of the Earth),
Greenpeace,
Canonbury Villas,
Islington, N1.
March 19.

From Professor J. L. Head

Sir, You write (leading article, March 17) that "It is logical and lucrative to impose VAT on domestic fuels". It may be lucrative but it is not entirely logical.

The Chancellor, in his Budget speech, justified the measure by reference to the government's commitment to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.

It is reasonable to assume that taxation of hydrocarbon fuels will reduce consumption and, therefore, the emission of carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas). But the flaw in the logic is the taxation of electricity, the consumption of which does not per se add to carbon dioxide emissions.

Logically, the tax should be imposed on the primary hydrocarbon fuels, principally coal and gas, used in the generation of electricity.

By taxing electricity directly, the Chancellor will be taxing electricity derived from non-hydrocarbon sources, which amounts to some 20 per cent of electricity consumed in the UK, the generation of which does not contribute to greenhouse gas emissions.

Yours faithfully,
J. L. HEAD,
Boxgate Farm, St Johns Road,
Crowborough, East Sussex.
March 18.

From Mr T. H. Hughes-Davies

Sir, Just before the second world war, when *The Times* cost 2d, a unit of electricity cost about the same. The paper's price is now about six units. Books have risen even more. Compared with these increases, value-added tax on print would be trivial. Taxing fuel may be more lucrative, but it is hardly more logical or less damaging.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,
Slades Cottage, Breamore,
Fordingbridge, Hampshire.
March 17.

Weekend Money letters, page 28

Pleasure from pain

From Mr John W. Wood

Sir, Bernard Levin raises serious and complex issues in his article on "The American way of death" (March 12). American papers are chronicling an unparalleled level of frightening and puzzling violence, made all the more menacing by the apparent coldness and viciousness of so many of the crimes.

However, a short tour through the pages of the edition of *The Times* in which his article appears, an edition which reports the case of the 15-year-old rapist, the priest with a library of paedophile porn films, the conviction of ten homosexual sadists, the homosexual murder of a director strangled in his bed, in a week in which two girls were convicted of torturing and murdering a 70-year-old neighbour, really should encourage Levin to a more penetrating analysis.

The wave of cold, mindless violence engulfing the West is deeply troubling; it is not, however, the problem of one nation.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN W. WOOD (Vice-Chairman,
Republicans Abroad Worldwide),
Kent House, Market Place, W1.
March 17.

From Mr Norman Harrison

Sir, On violence, Abbas Taher (letter, March 13) notes that what was shocking yesterday is the norm today.

There is no such thing as a one-way pendulum. Yesterday's prurient times, Nebuchadnezzar's, Nero's and our Restoration period, have all been followed by prudish ones, and today's will be too. The interesting questions are, how will the change come about and how soon?

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN HARRISON,
Orchard House, 34 Banbury Road,
Brackley, Northamptonshire.

In his letter published on March 24, Mr Julian Brazier, MP, said that our leading article of March 12 had argued that "the glorification of sadism ... does not contribute to the sort of violence on unwilling victims from which society rightly shrinks". In fact, in a fuller context, the leader said: "But that [Lord Templeman's statement] is to confuse the glorification of sadism with the private practice of it on willing partners. The latter does not contribute to the sort of violence on unwilling victims from which society rightly shrinks."

'Mad cow disease'

From Mrs Christine Wilkinson

Sir, As a non-veterinary but concerned member of the public I find in the letter on BSE from the President of the British Veterinary Association (March 17) little to reassure me.

In view of the latest figures on confirmed cases, are we wise to rely without challenge on his assertion that "cows do not infect other cows with BSE"?

The possibility of cow-to-calf transmission, before symptoms appear in the mother, is still under study. Moreover until the mechanism of infection with BSE is understood this assertion is incapable of verification.

The gist of Mr Anthony's letter is that we non-veterinarians should keep out of the discussion and rely without question on his profession down on the farm and at the abattoir.

Perhaps if that profession had been more productively deployed in the animal feed industry in ensuring that only safe animal feed entered the food chain then this entire sorry episode could have been avoided.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINE WILKINSON,
The Courtyard,
Gwaenynog,
Denbigh, Clywd.
March 17.

Trade with Iran

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall North (Labour)

Sir, It is unfortunate that Sir Edward Heath, in the course of his Commons speech last Monday on the economy, should have been so dismissive of the death threat to Mr Salman Rushdie.

"We are losing masses of trade in the Middle East", he said. "That is true also of Iran because of our relationships over that wretched book ... I thought that the author in question is wealthy enough to protect himself, but we provide public protection — very well, but I see no reason why we should ruin our relationship with Iran, which can be a very profitable market".

It may have been too much to expect the former prime minister to publicly denounce the sentence of death on a British citizen living here, or to express concern over the shocking abuse of human rights in Iran; but at least one would have thought he would clearly recognise the principle involved in resisting terrorism, whether it comes from the Provisional IRA or the religious authorities in Iran.

Yours etc,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.
March 24.

Canoe training

From Mr G. C. Good

Sir, In your report of March 24 on the deaths of four teenagers on a canoeing journey you quote a spokesman for the company which runs the St Albans Venture Centre, which organised the trip, as stating that "the canoe union was only one trade association that provided standards".

May I point out that the British Canoe Union is the governing body of the sport, recognised through the Sports Council and the Central Council for Physical Recreation.

We reflect the collective wisdom of the main practitioners of the pastime, and administer the sport from the selection of Olympic teams to the provision of a system of qualifications for those introducing others to the activity. There is no other body in England recognised for these purposes.

An "approval" system is operated, whereby centres offering canoeing as an activity, apart from employing staff trained through the BCU's coaching scheme, may receive an endorsement to the effect that their standards have been monitored, and are in accord with the nationally accepted guidelines.

Our guidelines are accepted by the Department for Education and followed by many statutory, as well as voluntary bodies.

There are other governing bodies of sport which offer an endorsement for centres offering the activity under their jurisdiction. The Royal Yachting Association is one. The British Activity Holidays Association is the only umbrella organisation known by us to operate in England, seeking to offer an endorsement "across the board" for centres offering a range of activities.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. GOOD
(Director of Coaching),
British Canoe Union, Adbolton Lane,
West Bridgford, Nottingham.

'Weary' or 'wither' in Binyon poem?

From Mr Alasdair Aston

Sir, In Laurence Binyon's poem, "For the Fallen" (letters, March 13, 23), the version "Age *shall not* weary [rather than "wither"] them" has been in print in book form, presumably with the poet's endorsement, since at least 1919 (*The Four Years*: War poems collected and newly augmented, by Laurence Binyon, pub. Elkin Mathews, Cork Street, London).

The poem first appeared in your newspaper in the "weary them" version on September 21, 1914, so it seems probable that the change to "weary" was made before then.

Yours faithfully,
ALASDAIR ASTON,
84 Northiam Street, E9.
March 23.

From Mr T. S. Pearce

Sir, In 1925, at the instigation of the headmaster, H. H. Hardy, Laurence Shuttleworth, then librarian of Cheltenham College, wrote to a number of eminent living poets to request manuscript copies of their poems to be displayed in the library. He included Laurence Binyon, who sent a copy of "For the Fallen".

In this copy, the line referred to by Major General Harrod (March 23) reads: "Age shall not weary them ..."

It would seem therefore that Binyon himself made the alteration.

Yours faithfully,
TIM PEARCE (Housemaster),
Southwood House,
Cheltenham College,
Thirlestaine Road,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
March 23.

From Mrs W. Hendry

Sir, Between 1925 and 1929 I lived in Badsey, near Evesham, Worcestershire, and attended the local council school, which I visited again four years ago. The headmaster was Frank Amos, who had been wounded in the Great War and whose rifle was suspended on the wall of the classroom of standard 5, together with an inscription of the fourth verse of "For the Fallen" and the roll of honour for that small village. I recall the line as "Age shall not wither them".

Laurence Binyon's brother, C. A. Binyon, lived in the village and was on the school's board. I think it unlikely that the poem would have been misquoted there.

Yours faithfully,
W. HENDRY,
72 Closefield Grove,
Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.
March 23.

From Mr Peter del Strother

Sir, "Age shall not wither them ..." always reminds me of Enobarbus in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*. He says of Cleopatra: "Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety ..."

"Age shall not weary them ..." has no such inappropriate allusions.

Yours faithfully,
P. del STROTHER,
19 Carleton Avenue,
Simonstone, Lancashire.
March 23.

Savoy reopening

From Mr J. Martin Haldane

Sir, The reopening of the Savoy Theatre has been awaited with keen anticipation since the tragic fire in 1990 (Debra Crain, Arts, March 16). I find it lamentable that the theatre is not to be reopened by the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company with a Gilbert and Sullivan opera.

A ballet score arranged from Sullivan's music is an inadequate nod in the direction of the musical partnership for whose work the theatre was conceived and whose work has carried its name throughout the English-speaking world.

Yours faithfully,
J. MARTIN HALDANE,
Gleneagles,
Auchterarder, Perthshire.

Survival of the fittest

From Mr Richard Wildman

Sir, At the time of Abraham Lincoln's first inauguration on March 4, 1861, there were six living American presidents (letter, March 23): Lincoln himself, Buchanan, Pierce, Fillmore, Tyler and Van Buren.

The average age (rounded down) of the five ex-presidents was 65 in 1861 and is 75 this year, so longevity is a factor. It ensured that, just prior to the deaths of Macmillan, Eden and Churchill, there were six living prime ministers.

The only other time (apart from the present) when there were six premiers was immediately before Asquith's death on February 15, 1928: Baldwin (in office), MacDonald, Lloyd George, Balfour and Rosebery. The average age of the ex-premiers then was 71; today it is 77. Each group included two octogenarians: then, Lords Balfour and Rosebery; now, Lords Callaghan and Home.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WILDMAN,
20 Mill Street, Bedford.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 26: The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening from the United States of America.

Mr Brian McGrath, Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis and Wing Commander Christopher Moran, RAF, were in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 26: The Princess Royal, Honorary President, Chartered Institute of Transport, this morning attended the "Transport for Sustainable and Green Tourism" Seminar, North Warehouse, the Docks, Gloucester, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Mr Henry Elwes).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Butler Trust, this afternoon visited Her Majesty's Prison Gloucester and was received by Lieutenant Colonel Richard Coxwell-Rogers (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire).

Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 26: The Prince of Wales today visited Stornoway and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Western Isles (the Earl Granville). His Royal Highness this morning opened the new Western Isles Hospital.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon opened Grampian Television's new Studio.

His Royal Highness later addressed the Scottish Crofters Union Annual Conference at Stornoway Town Hall.

Commander Richard Aylard, RN, was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 26: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Patron, the Bristol Royal Society for the Blind, this afternoon opened the Society's new Centre in Bedminster, Bristol.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of Avon (Sir John Wills, Bt).

Lady Aird was in attendance.

Princess Andrew Romanoff was unavoidably prevented from being present at the funeral of Mr Thomas Leigh-Pemberton.

Debate

On Wednesday, March 31, at 7pm at Chelsea Old Church on the Embankment, members of the public are invited to hear Mr A.N. Wilson and Dr Hyam Maccoby debate with Durham Professor James Dunn and the Very Rev David L. Edwards, Provost of Southwark, the proposition that "Christianity still resists the Jewishness of Jesus" against the background of recently published Jewish studies.

Tomorrow's royal engagement

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Royal Air Forces Association, will attend the Association's annual service at St Clement Danes at 10.55 and will attend a reception at the Law Courts afterwards.

Abbots Bromley

School of S. Mary & S. Anne
Scholarship Awards 1993

Emma Butterworth, Homefield, Rugby; Laura Cave, St John's on the Hill, Chepstow; Phillippa Cole, Chetham's School, Manchester; Sarah Foster, Smallwood Manor; Alexandra *Guest, St Dominic's, Brewood;* Emma Hurst, Emscote Lawn, Warwick; Alexandra Mosley, Smallwood Manor; Victoria Search, Emscote Lawn, Warwick; Michelle Veszpremi, *Churchfields Primary;* Priya Walla, Nevill Holt, Market Harborough; Victoria Woodyatt, S. Dominic's, Brewood.

Sixth Form Awards

Suzanne de Brzezie Russocki, King Edward VI School, Lichfield; Geraldine Wilkinson, Newcastle-under-Lyme School.

The Ambassador of Poland

On March 18 the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland, on behalf of President Lech Walesa, invested Dr Andrzej Ciechanowiecki with the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta. The Investiture was followed by vin d'honneur.

Weekend birthdays

Today
Lord Amery of Lustleigh, 74; Mr D.R.G. Andrews, former chairman, Land Rover-Leyland, 60; Mrs Mary Armour, artist, 91; Miss *Ruth Ashton,* general-secretary, Royal College of Midwives, 54; Mr R.P. Bauman, chief executive, SmithKline Beecham, 62; Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, former chairman, Press Council, 67; Mr Kim Brassey, racehorse trainer, 38; Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, KG, 81; Mr R.P. Cohan, choreographer, 68; Miss Maria Ewing, opera singer, 43; Lord *Fanshawe of Richmond, 66;* Mr Julian Glover, actor, 58; Sir David Hancock, civil servant, 59; Mr Victor Hochhauser, impresario, 70; Lord Lyell, 54; Mr J.G. Parker, high master, Manchester Grammar School, 60; Lord Plumb, MEP, 68; Mr Mstislav Rostropovich, 66; Sir Richard Sharp, civil servant, 78; Admiral Sir Jock Slater, 55; Professor Margaret *Stacey,* sociologist, 71; *Mr* Gary Stevens, footballer, 30; the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, 58; Mr Frank Taylor, chief constable, Durham, 60; Mr Cyrus Vance, American politician, 76; Mr Michael York, actor, 51.

Tomorrow
Sir Dirk Bogarde, actor, 72; the Hon George Bruce, portrait painter, 63; Mr Steve Bull, footballer, 28; Professor Lord Butterfield, former master, Downing College, Cambridge, 73; Sir Robert Clarke, chairman, United Biscuits (Holdings), 64; Mr Richard Eyre, artistic director, National Theatre, 50; Mr Robert Harris, actor, 93; Mr Peter Holwell, principal, London University, 57; *Lord Hutchinson* of Lullington, QC, 78; Lord Judd, 58; Mr Neil Kinnock, MP, 51; Mr Raymond Lister, artist and author, 74; Mr Martin Neary, organist, 53; Mr Michael Parkinson, broadcaster, 58; Dr D.H. Roberts, provost, University College, London, 61; Professor Merton Sandler, chemical pathologist, 67; Sir John Stephenson, former Lord *Justice of Appeal,* 83; Mr Richard Stilgoe, lyricist, 50; Mr Peter Wilmot-Sitwell, vice-chairman, S.G. Warburg Group, 58.

CHRIS HARRIS



On parade: Guardsman Richard Curtis of the Coldstreams inspects three model Life Guards who will join 4,000 other lead soldiers recreating the Coronation procession to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Coronation. Mr Curtis retires next month to work at the Guards Museum, Birdcage Walk, London SW1, where the exhibition opens on April 10

Church services tomorrow

Fifth Sunday in Lent

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 Sung Euch, Messe cum jubilo (Duruflé), Ave verum (Hendrie), Rev T Willmott; 3.15 E, Responses (Leighton-Jones), Canterbury Service (Ridout), Lamentation (Tallis); 6.30 Sermon & Compline, Rev Dr C A Lewis.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Sung Euch, Impromptu No.1 (Nicholson), Aeterna Christi Munera (Bairstow), Prelude in C minor (Bach), Canon David Jenkins; 3 E, Responses (Ayleward), Collegium Regale (Howells), Blessed Jesu (Dvorak), Fugue in C minor (Bach); 6.30 Night Prayers, Canon David Jenkins.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 *Parish Communion, Litany* (Appleford), The Provost; 11.15 Sung Euch, The Chelmsford Mass (Vann), Drop, drop slow tears (Walton), Rev Jacqui Jones; 4 Baptism; 6 Choral E, *Responses (Ayleward),* The Lamentation (Bairstow), Emendemus in melius (Byrd), Canon Peter Southwell Sander.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany (St Erasmus Chapel); 8 HC; 10 Choral M, *Sumsion in B flat, Benedicus,* Canon Owen Conway; 11.30 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Amen (plainsong); 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Ebdon), Faux Bourdon (Willan), Blessed Jesu (Dvorak), *Amen (plainsong),* Organ: Cortège & Litanie (Dupré); 6.30 ES, Canon Michael Rees.

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), Vexilla *Regis (Ireland),* Organ: Prelude (Duruflé); 2.15 Tenth Anniversary Kries Viersen Twinning Service; 3.45 EP; 6 Sequence of music and readings for Passiontide.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Sung Euch, Haydn in B flat, Litany (Day), Herrick's Ode, or Psalme, to God (Newbold), The Precentor; 4 Choral E, Responses (Statham), The First Service (Gibbons), Turn back, O Man (Holst).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC; 9.30 Sung Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Drop, drop, slow tear (Gibbons), Canon Brian Osborne; 11.15 M, Responses (Byrd), The Lamentation (Bairstow), O sacrum convivium (Gabrieli); 12.30 HC; 3.45 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), Lacrymosa (Mozart), The Bishop of Grantham.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Lamentations (Bairstow), Almighty and everlasting God (Gibbons), Rev Canon Dr Geoffrey Rowell; 3.30 E, Responses (Reading), Purcell in B flat, Salvator mundi (Blow).

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & Litany; 8 Holy Euch, The Dean; 9 Parish Euch & Confirmation, The Lord Bishop; 11 Sung Euch, Messe Basse (Fauré), Creed (Shaw), Wash me throughly from my wickedness (Handel), The Canon in Residence; 12.15 Holy Euch (Lady Chapel); 3.30 Choral E, Canticles (Long *in F), Give ear unto me (Marcello); 6.30* Parish E & Sermon, Rev Boon-Hor Khoo.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Stravinsky Mass, Crucifixus (Lotti), The Archdeacon *of Manchester; 6.30 E, Responses* (plainsong), Stanford in C, God so loved the world (Stainer), Rev Ralph Mallinson.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC; 11 Euch, Messe cum jubilo (Duruflé), Out of the deep (Tomkins), Ave verum (Caroll), Canon Roy White; 3 E, Evening Service (Dovelon), Laboravi in gemitu meo (Caldara), Canon Owen Everson.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, The Deacon; 10 Sung Euch, Hide not thou thy face (Farrant), Little Organ Mass (Haydn), Ave Verum Corpus (Mozart), Organ: Ricercare 3 6 (Bach), The Librarian; 6 E, Responses (Smith), Wood in E flat, Blessed Jesu (Dvorak), Organ: Consolation (Reger), The Dean.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis No.1 (Willan), Verily, verily (Tallis), Rev C M Bonneywell; 11.30 M, Benedicite (Sumsion in B flat), Haste thee O God (Batten); 3 E, Short Service (Morley), Solus ad victimam (Leighton), *Preb R Schofield.*

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Canon Paul Bates; 11.15 Abbey Euch, Missa Brevis (Mozart), Ave Verum (Mozart), Laudate Dominum (Mozart), Canon Colin Semper; 3 E, Magdalen Service (Leighton), Salvator mundi (Blow), Rev Dr John Cullen; 5.45 Organ recital; 6.30 *ES, Canon Anthony Harvey.*

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Masses 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30 & 7; 10.30 SM, Missa Iesu nostra redemptio (Palestrina), Planxit autem David (Josquin), O Lord my God (Gant); 10 MP; 2.30 Organ recital; 3.30 Solemn V & B, Magnificat primi toni (Suriano), Absterge, Domine (Tallis).

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral Euch, Jackson in G, Messe Solenelle (Langlais), Crucifixus (Lotti), Rev Fr Paul Kinsey.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 HC, The Minister; 10 HC, Missa brevis (Palestrina), The Minister; *11.30 MS,* Crucifixus pro nobis (Leighton), The Minister; St Giles' at 6, Talk by Rev David Macleod, organ by Herrick Bunney; 8 ES (HC), Rev Dr J Philip Newell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: *8 HC; 10.30 M,* Responses (Leighton), Benedicite (Jackson in G), Benedictus (Moore), Canon Christopher Hill; 11.30 HC, Mass in four voices (Byrd), Call to *remembrance, O Lord (Farrant); 3.15 E,* The Gloucester Service (Howells), Versa est in luctum (Lobo), Organ: Sonata No.6 in D minor (Mendelssohn), Rt Rev John Klyberg, Bishop of Fulham.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8 & 5.15 HC; 11 HM, Missa Bel amfitrit altera (Lassus), Tristis est anima mea (Poulenc), Rev C A Jones; 6 E & B, The Short Service (Causton), O vos omnes *(Gesualdo), Rev C L Geake.*

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev Preb Bewes; 6.30 Rev Dr John Stott.

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday *School; 11 Worship, Hide Thy Face From* My Sins (Thiman), Lacrimosa (Mozart), Drop, Drop, Slow Tears (Welch), Rev Dr James Schmidt.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: *11 Western Wind Mass (Taverner),* Astiterunt reges (Vittoria), Call to remembrance (Farrant).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, O Süsser, o *freundlicher, o gütiger Herr Jesu Christe* (Schütz); 12 HC; 6 E, Rev P Elvy.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15 Fr Raymond Gawronski, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Selben), Adoramus te Christe (Lassus), Vexilla Regis (Bruckner).

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC, Rev Sandy Millar; 11 Informal Service (Creche and Children's Church), Mr Lynn Green, Youth With A Mission; 6.30 Informal Service, Mr Lynn Green.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Western Wind Mass (Taverner), Miserere mei (Byrd); 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Vexilla regis (Wingham).

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Behold the Cross displayed (Ball), God so loved the world (Stainer), Rev Paul Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL *(Methodist),* SW1: 11 & 6.30 Rev Patrick McCluskey.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev Ronald T Englund; 7 Jazz Vespers, St *Anne's Jazz Choir and Jazz Trio, Rev Dr* José Fuliga.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 11 M, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Crux fidelis (King John of *Portugal), Rev Richard Hayes; 6.30 E,* Plainsong and Faux Bourdons (Ruffo and Nanini), Hide not Thou Thy face (Farrant), Rev Martin Parrott.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Robinson in C, O Saviour of the World (Goss), Canon John Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Ebdon), Blow in G, Passiontide music from Messiah *(Handel), Organ: Fugue in C minor* (Bach), Canon John Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: RAFA 50th Anniversary Service, 9 HC; 11 M, Canterbury Service (Howells), Solus ad victimam (Leighton), Ven B H Lucas; 12.15 HC.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev John H McIndoe; 6.30 Rev W Alexander Cairns.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 Missa Rorate coeli de super (Haydn), Herr, unser Herrscher (Bach).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 Sung Euch, Mass for 8 voices (Hassler), Crucifixus (Lotti), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: Service *at the restored church, 10.30 Sung Euch* (1662), Rev John Paul.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis (Gabrieli), O quam suavis est (Immel), *Rev Bert Galloway; 6 Choral E, Litany to* the Holy Spirit (Hurford), Rev Graham Buckle.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 MP & HC, Missa Petre Ego (Lobo), Crux Fidelis (King John IV of Portugal), Organ: Jesus est condemne à mort (Dupré), Rev Derek Watson.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 10 Family Communion; 11 Sung Euch, Four part mass (Byrd), David Christie.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 Choral M, Responses (Byrd), Lamentations (Bairstow), Benedicus (Alcock in D flat); Praise to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ (Schütz), The Rector; 12.15 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC (1662); 9.45 Euch, St Martin's Service (Stringer), Let my complaint come before Thee (Batten), Sicut cervus (Palestrina), Organ: O Mensch, bewein' *dein' Sünde gross (Pachelbel), Daniel* Hulls; 11.30 Visitors to London Service, If ye love me (Tallis), Responses (Ayleward), Salvator Mundi (Tallis), Organ: Plein Jeu (Clérambault), Rev John Pridmore; 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev Peter Kao; 5 Choral E, Responses (Byrd), Magnificat/Nunc Dimittis (Byrd Second Evening Service), Ave Maria (Parsons), Organ: O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig (Bach); 6.30 ES, Organ: Choral (Vierne), Rev Martin Flenwood.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45 & 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa brevis (Lotti), Fr Brian Horne; 6 Solemn E & B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral E, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Crux fidelis (Clemens non Papa), Rev Richard McLaren.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 *Choral M, Responses (Byrd), Sumsion in* B flat, Darke in F, Dream of the Rood (Stocken).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8 & 9 HC; 11 Solemn Euch, Missa Diaphonica (Robin Hodson), Consider all ye passers by (Amner), The Crown of Thorns (Tchaikovsky), Rev Christopher Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 Sung Euch, Missa Pange Lingua (Josquin), Rev Fr Ashley Back.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8 & 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa le bien que j'ai (Goudimel), Super flumina Babylonis (Palestrina), Perfice gressus meos (Lassus), Fr Neil Cocking; 6 Stations of the Cross & Benediction.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Wash me throughly (Wesley), Rev D G Palmer.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Lamentation *(Bairstow), Jubilate (Farrant in F minor),* Drop, drop, slow tears (Walton); 3.30 E, God so loved the world (Stainer), Wood in F, Hide not thou thy face (Farrant).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: *11 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis* (Walton), Timor et tremor (Poulenc), Tantum ergo (Duruflé).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Benedicite (Dyson in F), Ave Verum (Byrd), *The Chaplain; 12.30 HC.*

ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 *M,* Responses (Morley), Te Deum, Benedictus (Gibbons Short Service), Tenebrae factae sunt (Poulenc), Resident Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 HC, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Christ for our sakes (Anerio), Creed (Merbecke), Father I am thine only Son (Morley), Organ: Chorale Prelude: Herzlich thut mich verlangen (Bach), The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, *SW1: Services at Chelsea* Barracks, SW1, 11 M, O vos omnes (Correa), Saviour of the world (Psalm), Crux fidelis (Leighton), Organ: Pomp and Circumstance No.4 (Elgar), Rev L E M Claxton (Band of The Coldstream Guards).

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 Euch, Fauré's Requiem.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.G. Barratt and Miss N. Gibbs
The engagement is announced between Roger, youngest son of Mr S. Barratt and Mrs H. Rosenthal, and Natalie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B.L. Gibbs, of Hampstead.

Mr J.J. Coman and Miss G.R. Wheeler
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Coman, of Rathgar, Dublin, and Gail, daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur Wheeler, of Sunningdale and Dublin.

Mr M.C. Lessiter and Miss S.J. Bacon
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs Brian G. Lessiter, of Camborne, Cornwall, and Stephanie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Bacon, of Dean Close House, Cheltenham.

Mr J.M.P. Stock and Miss H.A. McLennan
The engagement is announced between Jon, fourth son of Mr Peter Stock and the late Mrs Freda Stock, of South Godstone, Surrey, and Hilary, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Stewart McLennan, of Pyrford, Surrey.

Mr S. DeBanks and Miss E.C.T. Marrack
The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs Tony DeBanks, of Wendover, Buckinghamshire, and Emma Catherine Tregarthen, daughter of Mr Timothy Marrack, of Newbury, Berkshire, and Mrs Elisabeth Cary, of Prestbury, Cheshire.

Mr L.D. Knight and Miss S.E. Fletcher
The engagement is announced between Laurence David, youngest son of Mrs D.K. Knight and the late Mr R.L. Knight, of Milford, Surrey, and Sarah Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter K. Fletcher, of Fullwood, Sheffield.

Marriage

Mr J. Bottomley and Miss K. Sturley
The marriage took place on March 26, at St Paul's Church, Monte Carlo, of Mr Jeffrey Bottomley to Miss Kimberley Sturley.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Michael Bruce, poet, Kinnesswood, Kinross-shire, 1746; Alfred de Vigny, poet, Loches, France, 1797; Wilhelm Conrad von Röntgen, physicist, Nobel *laureate* 1901, *Lennep, Germany,* 1845; Heinrich Mann, novelist, Lubeck, Germany, 1871; Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, architect, Aachen, 1886; Ferde Grofé, composer, New York, 1892; Draza Mihailovic, leader of Yugoslav Chetniks, Ivanjica, near Cacak, Serbia, 1893; Gloria Swanson, actress, Chicago, Illinois, 1899.

DEATHS: King James VI of Scotland (from 1567) and James I of England (reigned 1603-25), Theobalds, Hertfordshire, 1625; Sir George Gilbert Scott, architect, *London,* 1878; *John* Bright, politician, Rochdale, 1889; Sir James Dewar, physicist, London, 1923; Arnold Bennett, novelist, London, 1931; Yuri Gagarin, first cosmonaut to orbit the earth (1961), killed in an air crash, Moscow, 1968.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Raphael, painter, Urbino, Italy, 1483; St Teresa of Avila, Avila, Spain, 1515; King George I, reigned 1714-27, Osnabruck, Germany, 1660; *Aristide* Briand, 11 times premier of France, Nobel Peace laureate 1926, Nantes, 1862; Maxim Gorky, novelist, Nizhni Novgorod, Russia, 1868; Paul Whiteman, bandleader, Denver, Colorado, 1891; Dame Flora Robson, actress, South Shields, 1902.

DEATHS: Peg Woffington, actress, London, 1760; Sir Ralph Abercromby, general, on board flagship *Foudroyant,* 1801; Virginia Woolf, novelist and critic, committed suicide, Rodmell, Sussex, 1941; Sergei Rachmaninoff, composer and pianist, Beverly Hills, California, 1943; Stephen Leacock, economist and humorous writer, Toronto, 1944; Dwight Eisenhower, general, 34th American President 1953-61, Washington, 1969; Sir *Arthur Bliss,* Master of the Queen's Music, London, 1975; Marc Chagall, painter, French Riviera, 1985.

Dinners

The Viscount of Oxfuird
The Viscount and Viscountess of Oxfuird entertained members and guests of the International Cultural Exchange at dinner last night *at the House of Lords. The Belgian* Ambassador and Baroness Dehennin were the guests of honour.

Association of District Judges
District Judge Stephen Kendrick presided at the Annual Dinner of the Association of District Judges held at the Law Society's Hall last night. The Master of the Rolls was the principal guest and responded *on behalf of* the guests. Other guests included:
Lady Bingham, Sir Thomas Legg, KCB, QC, the Hon Mr Justice Ward, His Honour Judge Martin Tucker, QC, Master Dyson and Mr Michael Huebner.

Mr Jim Lester, MP
Mr Jim Lester, MP, was host at a dinner for graduates of the University of Nottingham and their guests at the House of Commons on Friday, March 26. The guest of honour and main speaker was Professor William D. Stewart, FRS, FRSE. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor *Colin* Campbell, spoke about current developments at the University.

Old Stortfordians' Society
Mr J. Shearman, President of the Old Stortfordians' Society, presided at the annual dinner held last night at King's College, Cambridge. Mr S.G.G. Benson, Headmaster of Bishop's Stortford College, and Mr S.G. Findlay, president-elect, also spoke.

Service dinners

The Essex Regiment (TA)
The Lord Lieutenant of Essex was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the 4th/5th Battalion The Essex Regiment (TA) Officers Dinner Club held *last night* at The Royal Anglian Regiment, Colchester. Colonel Geoffrey Morgan presided.

Royal Engineers
Lieutenant-Colonel D.R. Stenhouse presided at a reunion dinner of the Royal Engineers (Transportation) Officers Dinner Club held last night at Brompton Barracks, Chatham.

Pembroke Yeomanry
The annual dinner of the Pembroke Yeomanry was held last night at the RAC Ranges, *Castlemartin, to mark the anniver*sary of the French surrender at Fishguard. Colonel W.P. Howells, chairman, presided.

Parachute Regiment
Lieutenant-General Sir Napier Crookenden presided at the annual dinner of the 9th Battalion, the Parachute Regiment Officers' Dining Club, held last night at the Army and Navy Club.

TEL: 071 481 4000 PERSONAL COLUMN FAX: 071 481 9313

But he was pierced for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities: the chastisement he bore restored us to health and by his wounds we are healed.
Isaiah 53, 6 (REB)

BIRTHS

AZIS - To *Emily (née Briggs)* and Jonathan on 25th March, a son, a brother to Matilda and Constance.

BARTLETT - On March 20th *in Brussels, to Kate (née* Trollope) and Patrick, a daughter, Sophie Alexandra.

BENNETT - On March 20th, to Charlotte and Matthew, a son, Henry Edward Matthew, a brother for William.

BROVENDER - In New York on March 25th, to Jennifer *(née Cross)* and Bruce, a son, Nicholas, a brother for Sarah.

CREAN - On 25th March 1993, to Sarah (née Mason) and Nick, a son, Alexander David Hesketh, a brother for Georgia.

DRYER - On March 23rd, to Mary-Ann and Joseph, a daughter, Domenica, a sister to Emily, Jonathan and William.

EDWARDS - To Kate and Mark, on March 24th, a daughter, *Amelia Calypso.*

HOLLIS - On 22nd March, to Lucy (née Stewart-Roberts) and Christopher, a daughter, Catriona Rose.

LINEHAM - On March 21st, to Alison (née Strang) and Tim, a son, George, a brother for James.

PENN - On March 20th, to Claire (née Ross) and Charles, an adorable daughter, Olivia Clementine, a sister for James.

RICHE - *To Eden* and Gabrielle on 19th March, a son, Fergus Gerald Michael. Many thanks to the staff at U.C.H.

SPAIN - On 20th March, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Michèle and Alex, a beautiful daughter, Georgia Heather, a sister for Alexander Laurence.

TAYLOR - On March 20th 1993, to Jane (née Thomasson) and Peter, a son, James Robert Alexander.

TEMPORAL - On March 13th, to Jenny and David, a son, Hamish William, a brother for Camilla.

WARBURTON - On March 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah (née Yorke) and Richard, a son (Harry James).

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

MASON:HEDLEY - On March 28th, 1933, George Marshall to Elizabeth at St Paul's Knightsbridge.

DEATHS

ARGYLE - On 25th March 1993, suddenly, The Rev. F. *Martin Argyle,* much loved husband of Ruth and very special father of Ian and Malcolm and treasured grandfather of Charles, Rebecca, Bruce, Mark and Kirsty. Funeral at St Luke's, Wellsway, Bath, at 2.30 pm on Wednesday 31st March. "Thanks be to God who has given us a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ and an inheritance that will never perish or fade".

BARR - Nathalie Rose, M.B.E. On March 23rd, peacefully at Chateau du Village Nursing Home, Guernsey. Widow of Frederick George Barr, devoted 'aunt' of Jennifer, Clare, Roberta, Gavin, Simon, Sarah and Mark. Very much missed by her many friends and colleagues. Cremation at Le Foulon Chapel, St Peter Port, Guernsey, on Wednesday March 31st at noon. No flowers, but donations to The British Association of Hand Therapists c/o Miss Jenny More M.C.S.P. Physiotherapy Department, Frimley Park Hospital, Camberley, Surrey, SY16 5QJ.

BEWLEY - On March 25th 1993, Commander The Reverend Guy Patrick Bewley, loved husband of *Pam, father of Thomas and* Sally (Martin) and dear grandfather.

BLUNT - On 26th March at his home in Sydney, Australia, suddenly but peacefully, Arthur Graham Blunt, VRD, aged 82, formerly of London (Citizen and Grocer) and Walmer, Kent. Beloved husband of the late Iris and much loved father and grandfather.

BURROUGH - On March 25th peacefully at home after a long illness cheerfully and courageously borne, Rosemary June, aged 73, beloved wife of Alan and devoted mother of Bryan, Christopher and Marianne. Funeral and Thanksgiving at St Mary the Virgin, Henley-on-Thames, on Friday April 2nd at noon. Family flowers only. If you wish donations to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Parking available at Phyllis Court Club.

BUXTON - On March 26th 1993, peacefully, Arthur Kingsley aged 91. He will be greatly missed by Terry, Lilian, Gavin and Siobhan. Funeral Service, Friday April 2nd at 11.30 am Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead. Flowers and enquiries to Longhurst Undertakers, 8-10 Pound Lane, Epsom, tel: (0372) 725548.

FIELD - On March 23rd, at Southbourne, Dorset, Percy Head, aged 84 years, late Company Director, Wine Trade. Served HMS Bulldog/Matchless 1942-45. Member Polytechnic Football Club.

FORTEVIOT - On March 25th, peacefully at home, aged 87 years, Henry Evelyn Alexander 3rd Baron Forteviot of Dupplin. Funeral on Tuesday 30th March at Aberdalgie Church at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Aberdalgie Church Appeal Fund.

GREGORY - On Thursday March 25th, Lionel Gregory, beloved husband of Valerie and father of Colin and Robin, at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium (West Chapel), 3 pm, Tuesday 30th March. No flowers, but donations if desired to the North London Hospice.

HOLLINGSWORTH - Andrew. On 24th March, aged 31, after a brave battle against lymphoma. Much loved by Frankie, their children Jack and Rose, his parents Janet and John and his brother Peter. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to 'Combined Oncology Fund', c/o Frankie Brown, 60 Marmont Road, Peckham, London SE15 5TE.

ILLINGWORTH - Joan Eleanor (née Carter) peacefully in her sleep on 23rd March 1993, beloved mother of Susan and Frances and grandmother of Jonathan and Benedict. Funeral Service at St Andrew's, Great Rollright, on Wednesday 31st March at 2.30 pm. Family flowers, donations to Chipping Norton and Hook Norton District Nurses c/o Hull Farm, Chipping Norton, Oxon.

KING - On March 26th 1993 in her 94th year, Ivy Blanche King, co-founding Headmistress of Rye St Antony School, Oxford. A Requiem Mass will be held at St Anthony's Church, Headington, at 11 am on Friday 2nd April followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Sir Michael Sobell House, Oxford. A Memorial Service will be held at the School in the Trinity Term.

MORRISS - James Nicholas, on 22nd March suddenly in Thailand. Beloved son of Sarah and the late Nicky Morriss and brother of Annabel and Henrietta.

NEIL - James Donald Ph.D M.A. on March 25th at Dorset County Hospital aged 85, peacefully after a stroke. Beloved husband of the late Ruth and much loved by his children Josepher and Adrian and his 5 grandchildren. Funeral Service at Wimborne Minster on 2nd April at 2.15 pm followed by private cremation. Flowers to C. Small & Son (0202) 882372 or donations to the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund.

OAKLEY - On 24th March, Ivy, at home, suddenly but at peace. Royal Watcher extraordinaire, friend supreme, who will be missed always by all her friends, from Duchesses to the youngest of her "young family". Funeral arrangements to be confirmed.

PINCHAM - On March 24th, Sam of Wimbledon Park, aged 89. Suddenly in hospital after a brief indisposition. For over 62 years most happily married to Bessie. Very dear father to John, Roger and Margaret and brother to Vi. Wonderful and much loved grandfather and great-grandfather. All friends welcome to Funeral and Thanksgiving Service, St Mary's Church, Arthur Road, Wimbledon, at noon Wednesday March 31st; followed by private cremation. Family flowers but donations if desired to St George's Hospital Scanner Appeal c/o Eversheds, 120 Wandsworth High Street, SW18.

SPRATT - Christopher Gerald Needham F.B.V.A. Jack to his friends, died aged 76 years at Worthing Hospital peacefully surrounded by his family after a short illness courageously borne. Will be sadly missed. Funeral to take place on Wednesday 31st March 1993 at 3.15 pm at St Mary's Church, Goring, Sussex, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but if desired donations to the Masonic Charity may be sent c/o Dillistone Funeral Service, 191 South Farm Road, Worthing, Sussex, tel: (0903) 200836.

VALE - On 25th March 1993, Villiers Hindlip Vale, aged 85 years, peacefully at home. A very dearly loved husband, father and grandfather. Thanksgiving Service at Christchurch, Chorleywood, on Friday April 2nd 1993 at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, The Cedar Barn, Cedar Avenue, Hazlemere, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP15 7DW.

WARBURG - On 24th March in the Meadbank Nursing Home, Battersea, aged 90, Joan Emma Violet, much loved cousin and great-aunt. Cremation at Putney Vale on Monday 29th March at 11.45 am. Flowers and enquiries to: Larner & Son Ltd., 117 Falcon Road, SW11 2PE or donations to Save the Children Fund.

WARDELL - Theodosia Janet *(née Paull),* widow of John of Willsbrook Lucan, County Dublin, died peacefully aged 92 on 21st March. Much loved mother of John (Billy) and Dennis, grandmother and great-grandmother. Her funeral has taken place in Chiddingfold, Surrey.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

OSBORNE - James, Sculptor. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life and work will be held at St James's Piccadilly, London SW1, at 11.30 am on Tuesday 6th April.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

ATKINSON, WILLIAM of 34 St Marks Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LD died on 2nd December 1992: Particulars to Godfrey Davis & Baldwin Solicitors of 19A Upper Green East, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2XD before 31st May 1993.

LEMPFERT, MARJORIE OLGA ELIZABETH of 83 Sterne Street, Shepherd's Bush, London W12 died on 12 October 1992: Particulars to Miss Emily Macaskie Solicitors of Barton Yeates Westburys 38 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ER before 28th May 1993.

NORTON ISABEL JOYCE of Cherry Tree Cottage Queen Street, Twyford, Hampshire died on 27 October 1992: Particulars to Miss Emily Macaskie Solicitors of Barton Yeates Westburys 38 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ER before 28th May 1993.

PARKIN, JOHN Daniel Sec, Casa B, Urb Sola dal Tarter, of Sant Pere del Tarter, Canillo, Principat d'Andorra, Andorra. Died on 28th November 1992: Particulars to Messrs. D.B. Morris & Co., Solicitors of 23 Golden Square, London W1R 3PA before 31st May 1993.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ITALIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE ON CONTEMPORARY ITALY
BRUNO TRENTIN
General Secretary of CGIL
(Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro)
will speak on
THE RESPONSABILITIES OF THE TRADE UNIONS IN THE RECESSION AND THE INSTITUTIONAL CRISIS
Wednesday 31 March 1993, at 6.30pm
at the Italian Cultural Institute
39 Belgrave Square, London SW1
Tel 071-235 1461
Admission Free

LEGAL NOTICES

LAND ADJOINING THE FORMER ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, PONTNEWYNYDD IN THE COUNTY OF GWENT
PLACES OF WORSHIP SITES ACT 1873 AND REVERTER OF SITES ACT 1987
WHEREAS:-

(1) By a Conveyance dated the 29th day of November 1932 and made between Helen Jones (1) Edward Percy Halsall Jones (2) and the Representative Body of the Church in Wales (3) a place or parcel of land situate and being at St. Luke's Road, Pontnewynydd in the then County of Monmouth (now the County of Gwent) containing by admeasurement 3,600 square yards or thereabouts and adjoining the then St. Luke's Church was granted and conveyed by the said Helen Jones and the said Edward Percy Halsall Jones to the said the Representative Body of the Church in Wales under the authority of the Places of Worship Sites Act 1873 as amended by the Places of Worship Sites Amendment Act 1882.

(2) The said Church ceased to be used as a place of worship on the 12th day of June 1991 and the said adjoining land ceased to be held to be applied as a site for a place of worship.

(3) The said Church and the said adjoining land have ceased for a year to be used for the purpose of a place of worship and under the combined effect of section 1 of the Places of Worship Sites Act 1873 and section 1 of the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 the said land has reverted and become vested in the Representative Body of the Church in Wales upon trust to sell the same.

NOW TAKE NOTICE

1. The Representative Body of the Church in Wales intends to make an application to the Charity Commissioners for the establishment of a scheme which extinguishes the rights of beneficiaries under the trust and which requires the Representative Body of the Church in Wales to hold the said property on trust for such charitable purposes as may be specified in the Order.

2. Every beneficiary who wishes to oppose the extinguishment of his rights should notify his claim in writing to the Secretary of the Representative Body of the Church in Wales at 39 Cathedral Road in the City of Cardiff CF1 9XF not later than the [illegible] day of July 1993.

O.T. Jones Esq.,
Solicitor
The Representative Body of the Church in Wales,
39, Cathedral Road,
Cardiff, CF1 9XF.

DREWETT-HOLT HOLDINGS LIMITED
(Company Number: 1924504)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: At an extraordinary general meeting of the above Company held at 35/37 Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, Essex on 17th March, 1993, a special resolution was passed authorising a payment out of the capital of the Company in respect of the purchase by the Company of 10 £1 'A' Ordinary Shares in the Company and 989 £1 'C' Ordinary Shares in the Company. The amount of the permissible capitable payment was £71,000.00.
The statutory declaration and auditors' report dated the 17th day of March, 1993 are available for inspection at Unit 5 Waltham Park, Billet Road, London E17 5DU, the registered office of the Company.
Any creditor of the Company may apply to the High Court pursuant to section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 within five weeks immediately following the date of the aforementioned special resolution, 17th March, 1993, for an order prohibiting the payment.
Dated: 17th March, 1993
Signed: D L Drewett

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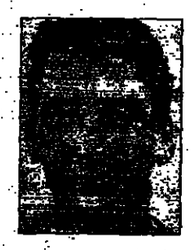
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PROFILE 20

The well-meaning chef or the chef who can cook?



ROWING 34

Pinsent offers Olympian view of Boat Race



FOOTBALL 35

Changing the snarling face of the game

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES Page 31

THE TIMES 2

SATURDAY MARCH 27 1993

WEEKEND MONEY

SAVING



Borrowers should not be so dazzled by the glamour of tax avoidance through a Pep mortgage that they fail to see high charges
Page 26

BUILDING

Buyers are showing a renewed interest in purchasing wrecks of houses and renovating them
Page 25

PAYING



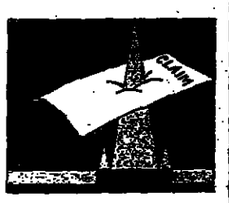
Errors at the Halifax meant a bill for £3,000 of overclaimed Miras for Sophie Bainbridge and her husband
Page 23

YIELDING



Marc Sylvain says yields on cash unit trusts should be calculated in a standard way
Page 24

WAITING



Norwich Union has not paid up eight months after a policyholder was in a road accident
Page 28

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4917 (+0.0177)
German mark.. 2.4327 (+0.0136)
Exchange index ..... 79.3 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2852.9 (+0.1)
Dow Jones ....3457.54 (-3.78)*
Nikkei Avge 18788.70 (+23.78)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 6⅛-6⅛
US Federal Funds 3¼-3½*
3-month Treas Bills 2.93-2.92%*
Long Bond 6.91%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4910*	£:$	1.4905
$:DM	1.6302*	£:DM	2.4355
$:SWfr	1.3087*	£:SWfr	2.2537
$:Ffr	5.5478*	£:Ffr	8.2500
$:Yen	116.38*	£:Yen	173.65
£:SDR	1.0678	£:ECU	1.2537

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 332.70 ..... PM 332.70
Close 332.20-332.70
New York:
Comex 332.15-332.65*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 138.8 February (1.8%)
* Denotes midday trading price



On the spot: Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, has written to leaders of two unions confirming that pay will not be restrained for another year

Public sector pay will be unfrozen next year

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

■ The pay ceiling of 1.5 per cent which the government is applying to public sector workers will not be extended for a second year, the Treasury has told trade unions

THE government does not intend to extend this year's ceiling on public sector pay for another year despite fears that pent-up wage demands could explode once the ceiling is removed next year, threatening to rupture the Treasury's inflation targets.

In correspondence with two civil service unions, the Chancellor laid to rest press speculation last week that the pay ceiling would be extended. His view is that extending the limit on public sector pay awards would not be practical, particularly because 1994 sees incomes squeezed by the higher taxes announced in the Budget, including VAT on domestic fuel and higher National Insurance contributions.

Already embroiled in a political dispute about the extension of VAT, the government also faces mounting discontent from trade unions with the Fire Brigades Union pressing for strike action over the pay ceiling and miners, London bus workers and rail men due to strike next week over job losses.

The government announced a 1.5 per cent ceiling on public sector pay in last year's Autumn Statement, covering the fiscal year 1993-4, and speculation emerged last week that some senior ministers were warning the government that it would have to impose a new ceiling on public sector pay for another year if tough Treasury spending targets were to be met.

However, Norman Lamont has confirmed that this is not his view. Last week, he was asked to confirm verbal promises in negotiations with civil service unions last November that the policy of pay restraint would not last another year and his statement that he did not believe it would be "practical" for the policy to continue beyond one year.

In a reply to a letter from the general secretaries of the FDA and the IPMS, two of the civil service unions, the Chancellor said: "I can confirm that your letter is a fair and accurate reflection of my remarks at the meeting with you on 24 November."

The Treasury also confirmed that the government, in the formal letter offering a 1 per cent pay rise in the year from April 1 to the National Union of Civil and Public Servants, which represents civil services executives and office support staff, intended to return to normal wage bargaining arrangements for next year's settlement. With pay settlements in the private sector already at historically low levels and still falling, it may be that the government will be able to negotiate pay increases close to or even below the 1.5 per cent ceiling for this year without imposing an extension of the current pay limits.

There is believed to be some discomfort among senior ministers about whether departments will be able to meet demands for anything but minimum wage rises next year.

IBM brings in outsider to replace failed chief

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

IBM, the world's largest computer maker, announced that it had ousted John Akers, its chairman and chief executive, and replaced him with the man who has been running RJR Nabisco, the tobacco and food company.

Louis Gerstner, 51, who has been RJR's chairman and chief executive for four years, was selected from 125 candidates to be IBM's sixth head — and the first from outside the company. Before joining RJR, he was a McKinsey management consultant, then chief executive of American Express's travel business. IBM refused to disclose details of his salary, but Mr Gerstner's total compensation with RJR last year topped $10 million.

Mr Akers, 58, who has run IBM for eight of his 33 years with the company, had ambitions to push sales to $100 billion by the time he was 60. But sales last year were $65 billion and falling. Mr Akers will formally bow out next Thursday, with the company facing a $300 million first-quarter loss.

IBM, battered by recession and high costs, is at its lowest ebb since it began almost 80 years ago. Last year, it plunged almost $5 billion into the red; this week, Moody's Investors Services downgraded its credit rating by two notches on $18 billion of debt.

The near three-month search for a new IBM chief was notable for the number of high-profile industry figures who publicly ruled themselves out of the job. IBM has cut 100,000 jobs from its 1985 employment peak, and is expected to axe at least 25,000 more this year. Mr Gerstner said every part of the business would be scrutinised. He saw no quick fix. "I have no idea how long it will take," he said. He has no experience in the computer industry, though his brother Richard is a highly regarded former IBM executive. IBM shares, which have halved this year, were marked up yesterday.

Colleagues say Mr Gerstner has an easy-going manner, but little mercy with those who fail to follow his lead. At McKinsey, he urged surgeons to discharge him early after he had severed two fingers in a lawnmower accident, so he could attend a Monday morning meeting.

At RJR Nabisco, the best known products of which include Shredded Wheat and Camel cigarettes, Mr Gerstner's job was to cut the $22 billion of debt taken on in 1989 when Kohlberg Kravis Roberts took the company private for almost $26 billion in the world's largest leveraged buyout.

In four years, he sold businesses worth $6 billion, cut the debt in half, axed 3,000 jobs and sold 11 corporate jets. Net profit last year was $299 million, compared with a 1989 loss of $1.1 billion.



Gerstner: "little mercy"

Taxman seeks £30m over mortgages

BY SARA MCCONNELL

BANKS and building societies owe an estimated £30 million this year for wrongly claimed tax relief from couples who have married after both claiming £30,000 under the mortgage interest relief at source scheme, the Inland Revenue says. The Revenue has signalled its intention to clamp down on lenders who claim too much back on behalf of their borrowers.

Revenue to act, page 23

Advertisers switch off HTV

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

A SERIOUS decline in advertising revenue and a rag-bag of one-off costs pushed HTV Group, widely regarded as the least financially stable of the independent television companies that won franchises in the latest round, into a loss in 1992.

HTV, which serves Wales and the West of England, incurred a £2.01 million loss in the year to end-December, compared with profits of £441,000. Louis Sherwood, the chairman, said the company was budgeting for a profit in the current year, despite the need to find the £20.5 million it has pledged to pay the government as the basic payment under the new franchise terms.

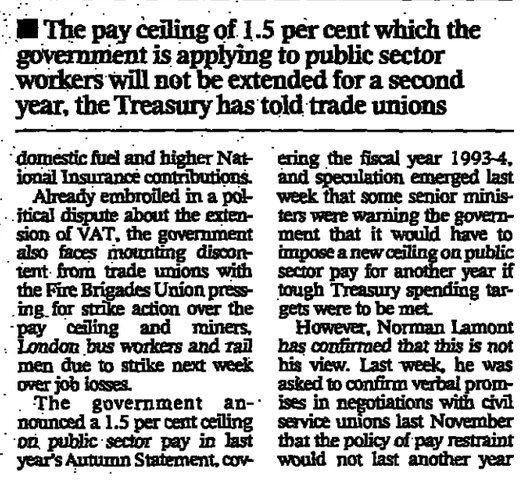
But the City marked HTV shares sharply back, with a fall of 8½p to 29½p. Analysts say any profit this year will be slight and will require a sharp boost in advertising revenue, which fell 5 per cent in 1992.

HTV has had to shelve the final dividend, after dropping the interim payment — last time a total of 3.75p was paid. Mr Sherwood said the group had adequate banking facilities to cope with the expected peak for borrowings this year, which should reach £31 million by May.

HTV is in discussions with a number of large overseas media groups with a view to putting together a joint production company. The company is also understood to be keen to find a partner prepared to take an equity stake. As well as providing fresh finance, this would also make the group less vulnerable to takeover should existing rules on the purchase of television companies be weakened.

Glut clips wings of kiwi growers

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT



IT MAY look like a furry potato, but the kiwi fruit is bread and butter to the farmers of North Island, New Zealand, who are now seeing the downside of what was one of the great success stories of the agri-business.

The New Zealanders, who transformed the unmarketable Chinese gooseberry, *Actinidia chinensis*, into a highly saleable fruit named after their flightless national bird, have seen world prices collapse, their marketing board almost bust, and their former near-monopoly undermined by other producers.

What a decade or so ago was exotic fruit, has become so abundant and commonplace that it has even started to undercut the price of the ubiquitous Golden Delicious. The spectacular growth in sales since the seventies far exceeded world demand and consumer fatigue appears to have set in.

Dave Carniss, produce manager at Safeways at Wapping in London, said prices had almost halved since last summer. On special offer, he was selling Italian kiwis at 10p each — well below the unit price of apples and oranges, even though the kiwi outshines its rivals in terms of vitamins.

The price collapse meant that New Zealand farmers were last year forced to throw a third of their crop, or 600 million kiwis, away. Price falls in Europe were caused by a bumper apple crop and ever-cheaper bananas.

The consequences have been dire in New Zealand, where farmers have suffered for years from falling prices for wool and meat. The Kiwifruit Marketing Board, which has a near-global monopoly on selling the New Zealand kiwis, badly misjudged demand and prices and has run up debts of £28 million. Cold store owners are going unpaid. State aid has been requested.

This week, the banks stepped in at the eleventh hour to finance this year's harvest in New Zealand, rescuing the marketing board from an attack by a rival organisation closely linked to the big international fruit growers.

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THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY MARCH 27 1993

NEWS

Funeral highlights IRA revulsion

■ A week of violence was laid to rest in an English village. The funeral of three-year-old Johnathan Ball, killed by an IRA bomb, was a sombre end to acts of terrorism that might yet prove cathartic in the history of Anglo-Irish politics.

Mourners heard some of the strongest condemnation yet of the IRA at a funeral that symbolised the new wave of revulsion against the terrorists..... **Pages 1, 3**

BA starts transatlantic fares war

■ British Airways cut fares to America by up to £80, triggering a fares war. A return ticket to New York was cut from £329 to £259 and Los Angeles is now £329, or 3p a mile. The reductions were matched by BA's rivals..... **Pages 1, 8**

Ceasefire deal

The Bosnian Serb Army has agreed to a ceasefire from noon tomorrow, General Lars-Erik Wahlgren, the Commander of UN forces said in Belgrade after talks with General Ratko Mladic, the head of the Bosnian Serb Army..... **Pages 1, 11**

Royal EC critic

The Prince of Wales attacked the European Community's agricultural policy when he told Scottish crofters that Brussels could learn a thing or two from farming methods in the north of Scotland..... **Page 2**

Miller's tale

The American playwright Arthur Miller added his voice to the debate on screen violence, condemning some scenes on television and in films as "conscienceless, unfeeling and automatic..... **Page 7**

Contracts fraud

Two businessmen who bribed senior BP staff to gain details of multi-million-pound contracts and made a fortune selling the information to prospective bidders were convicted of fraud at Southwark..... **Page 5**

Deer should die

Half the red deer in the Cairngorms should be culled to encourage regeneration of the ancient pine forest and allow the establishment of new forests, a report by a government working party, headed by Magnus Magnusson, recommends..... **Page 8**

Gaullist hopes

France decides the final shape of its new conservative majority in run-offs tomorrow but after a truce between President Mitterrand and Gaullists, only an upset could stop Edouard Balladur being prime minister..... **Page 9**

ANC challenge

The African National Congress accused President de Klerk of playing down the amount spent on South Africa's nuclear weapons programme, saying it had cost taxpayers ten times as much as he claimed..... **Page 12**

With one bound he was sensible...

■ Mills & Boon have begun to practise safe sex. Two works from the romantic novel publishers, *A Date with Destiny* and *Knight to the Rescue*, get to that crucial point, stop, and do the sensible thing. But readers still do not want clinical words — contraception is mentioned only euphemistically..... **Page 1**



Hat trick: Mikhail Gorbachev flourishes a white stetson given to him by the mayor of Calgary, Canada. Political impasse, page 10

BUSINESS

Pay policy: The Chancellor has indicated the Government does not intend to extend this year's ceiling on public sector pay into 1994, when incomes will be squeezed by higher taxes and National Insurance contributions..... **Page 19**

In the hot seat: IBM, which plunged almost $5 billion into the red last year, is replacing its chairman with Louis Gerstner, who has run RJR Nabisco, America's second largest tobacco and food company, for four years..... **Page 19**

Green gloom: Lec Refrigeration blames European environmental legislation for the loss of 360 jobs in Bognor Regis..... **Page 21**

Markets: Sterling recorded gains, closing up 1.77 cents at $1.4917 and up 1.36 pf at DM2.4327. The pound's value on the trade weighted index rose to 79.3 from 78.8. Equities ended almost unchanged, with the FT-SE 100 index up 0.1 at 2,852.9..... **Page 22**

SPORT

Rugby: "England are invited every year and, every year, they refuse, a refusal that looks pusillanimous. More than that, it looks downright silly." Simon Barnes on the Hong Kong sevens..... **Page 31**

Rowing: Today the 139th Boat Race takes place with Oxford again hot favourites to beat Cambridge. Matthew Pinsent, an Olympic medallist and MBE at 22, captains Oxford..... **Pages 34 and 36**

Motor racing: Britain's Damon Hill broke the duopoly established by Prost and Senna in South Africa when he split the two three-time world champions in the qualifying session for tomorrow's Brazilian Grand Prix..... **Page 36**

Football: Tofik Bakhramov, the linesman whose controversial ruling that Geoff Hurst had scored the goal that put England on course for their 4-2 victory in the 1966 World Cup final against Germany, has died aged 66..... **Page 36**

WEEKEND

Blowtorch cooking: Bruno Loubert, the rising star of London's restaurant scene, juggles dishes with the skill of a Chinese acrobat..... **Page 4**

Blue blades: Cambridge oarsmen push the boat out with their choice of casual fashion..... **Page 10**

Help for house hunters: Rachel Kelly compiles the ten top tips for house buyers..... **Page 13**

Venetian glory: What would it have been like to attend a great religious ceremony in 16th or 17th century Venice? Released this month is a compact disc which reconstructs the magnificent music heard in San Marco in Monteverdi's day. Also: reviews of new compilation albums from Ray Charles and Leontyne Price..... **Page 16**

Macbeth in 90 minutes: An enterprising fringe theatre company in London has shorn Shakespeare's Scottish play of its witches and much else..... **Page 16**

COMMENT

Simon Jenkins

This was a week in which an extraordinary number of children seem to have died. We watched a daily round of adults deep in grief: the brave father of Tim Parry, the parents of children lost on a canoe trip, soldiers sobbing over a girl killed on the Srebrenica landing strip. Sympathy for strangers does not come naturally. We must imagine ourselves in their shoes, our own children dead, ourselves sitting before the cameras, teeth clenched, white-knuckled..... **Page 14**

Alexander Chancellor

I happened to come across Pamela Harriman in New York this week on the day President Clinton announced he was sending her to Paris as his ambassador.... I was impressed, as everybody always is, by her poise, her charm, and her almost miraculous state of preservation at 73..... **Page 14**

ARTS

Titicut Follies, Frederick Wiseman's vivid exposé of a Massachusetts hospital for the criminally insane, gets its world television premiere after being banned for 24 years (BBC2, today, 9.10pm)

Weekend, page 18

A three-part drama by Andrew Payne, *You Me and It* explores the anguish of a couple (played by James Wilby and Suzanne Burden) who are unable to have children (BBC1, tomorrow, 9.10pm)

Weekend, page 19

LEADERS

Nuclear perils

Pyongyang has until March 31 to change its mind; if it does not, the world must react with utmost resolution. The Cold War may be over, but the war against rogue regimes with nuclear ambitions is entering a new and increasingly delicate phase..... **Page 15**

Power of the pulpit

In recent times, preaching has become a craft despised. The bishop of Birkenhead's stately anger, televised and reprinted throughout the world, may help redeem the preacher's craft..... **Page 15**

"Age shall not weary them" was the most famous line in Laurence Binyon's *For the Fallen*. Was one of the words changed?..... **Page 15**

Nor can one expect that the surge of grieving that was given vent to at the mass meeting at Trinity College on Wednesday evening and is to have fresh expression at a public rally in Dublin on Sunday, will be perpetuated. Life marches on; forgetfulness helps the killers

—The Irish Times

One is left with the feeling that throughout the exercise the importance of recovering the government's position has been at least as important as the evaluation of a national energy policy

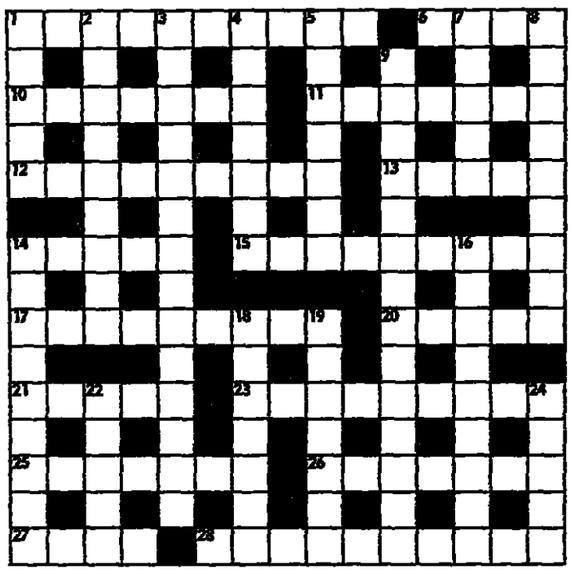
—The Scotsman

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,189

PARKER DUOFOLD

A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address.....



ACROSS

1 Aspect of fighter pilot seen in confrontation (4-2-4).
6 What originates with hare-brained idea, maybe (4).
10 Attack two men simultaneously on strike, and pay for it (4,3).
11 Drop a lot of players, old and new (7).
12 What traps bold characters in car, OK? (4-5).
13 Poetic artist using black pigment (5).
14 Beg for supplies for imprisoned daughter (5).
15 *Sally sticking pin in* — it's a sort of magic (9).
17 Person buying almost neat drink for a change (9).
20 The good news initially spread here? (5).
21 Figint extra round after 12 (3-2).
23 Like Marchmain's place, had changes made round it (9).
25 Like midnight service — whence a *famous sermon?* (3-4).
26 Temporarily dismissed and left alone (4,3).
27 Cut back marks in test (4).
28 Game leader in forward position during attack (10).

DOWN

1 St Andrews type seen playing in the wind (5).
2 Carried on in a way that's spicy (9).
3 The root problem is about foreign money — who can sort things out? (7-7)
4 Achieves understanding in some depth (7).
5 A fine specimen of a biscuit (7).
7 Monster emerging from filthy drain (5).
8 What's made of moderate team when routed? (9).
9 Caught village horse in flat race (14).
14 Finish of balustrade, once top's in order (9).
16 Conductor travelled with chosen people on top (9).
18 Batsman who is out intentionally? (7).
19 *Ran down to rescue* after turning over (7).
22 Rum lot of Welsh gangsters? (5)
24 Duke has to confront rising county set (5).

Concise Crossword, Weekend section, page 20

Solution to Puzzle No 19,183

		T	A	L	C	U	M	P	O	W	D	E	R	
F	U	A	N		I	O		Z						
A	G	R	O	U	N	D		C	O	L	L	E	C	T
C		N		N	E		O	F		K		H		
E	C	U	A	D	O	R		T	E	R	M	I	T	E
T		P		R	F				A		E		R	
H	U	S	S	Y		E	N	F	A	M	I	L	L	E
E				L		I							A	
M	A	D	H	A	T	T	E	R		W	A	G	O	N
U		I		B			S		H		O		D	
S	P	A	T	U	L	A		T	R	I	P	L	E	T
I		L		N		R		R		T		I		H
C	H	E	D	D	A	R		A	N	I	M	A	T	E
		G		E		A		T		N		T		N
	A	T	A	R	M	S	L	E	N	G	T	H		

Solution to Puzzle No 19,188

C	R	A	V	E	D		C	L	A	W	B	A	C	K
	O		E		H			A		P		I		
B	L	A	C	K	S	E	A		A	S	T	E	R	N
	L		A		P		P		R		G			
D	O	O	R	P	O	S	T		R	I	C	T	U	S
	V		A		I		E		S		U		H	
E		G	O	L	D	R	U	S	H		R		I	
C	R	E	E		E		A		T		T	E	M	P
O		S		B	R	A	N	D	I	S	H		A	
R		C		R		D		L		R		R		
S	C	A	L	E	D		V	O	L	T	A	I	R	E
E		P		A		E		L		S		I		
T	R	I	C	K	Y		R	A	I	L	H	E	A	D
E		S		J		S		F		E		G		
D	E	T	O	N	A	T	E		E	N	D	U	E	S

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc's,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: S Millins, Shakespeare Road, London; E G W Hogg, The Hollies, Park Corner, Fressford, Bath; T R Mortimer, First Avenue, Farlington, Portsmouth; G Geary, Dorset Avenue, Romford, London; E Gearing, Festival Avenue, New Barn, Longfield, Kent.

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WEATHER

Cloud with rain over Northern Ireland and western Scotland will spread slowly east and there may be snow on hills of northwest Scotland. Eastern Scotland will become cloudy but be mainly dry. Western parts of Northern Ireland may become drier later. Northeast, eastern, central and southern England should be dry and sunny after frost. Wales and western England will be dry, with sunshine. Outlook: rain in north and west regions spreading east.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet, sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	11	52	f	Luxor	29	84	s
Akrotiri	20	68	s	Madrid	11	52	s
Alex'dria	20	68	s	Majorca	14	57	s
Algiers	9	48	f	Malaga	16	61	s
Amst'dm	8	46	s	Malta	15	59	f
Athens	18	64	f	Melb'rne	21	70	f
Bahrain	19	66	s	Mexico C*	22	72	s
Bangkok	34	93	s	Miami*	24	75	f
Barbados*	29	84	f	Milan	12	54	f
Barcelna	16	61	s	Montreal*	5	41	s
Beirut	18	64	s	Moscow	3	37	c
Belgrade	4	39	r	Munich	2	36	sn
Berlin	3	37	f	Nairobi	29	84	s
Bermuda*	22	72	f	Naples	8	46	r
Biarritz	10	50	s	N Delhi	24	75	s
Borde'x	10	50	s	N York*	8	46	c
Brussels	8	46	f	Nice	13	55	s
Budapst	7	45	f	Oslo	7	45	f
B Aires*	31	88	s	Paris	7	45	f
Cairo	24	75	s	Peking	18	64	s
Cape Tn	21	70	s	Perth	20	68	c
Chicago*	5	41	c	Prague	3	37	f
Ch'church	16	61	f	Reykjavik	2	36	f
Cologne	6	43	f	Rhodes	20	68	f
C'phagn	4	39	f	Rio de J	35	95	s
Corfu	16	61	r	Riyadh	29	84	s
Dublin	10	50	s	Rome	8	48	f
Dubrovnik	11	52	r	Salzburg	2	36	sn
Faro	17	63	s	S Franc'o*	15	59	f
Florence	10	50	s	Santiago*	31	88	s
Frankfurt	7	45	f	Seoul	13	55	s
Funchal	18	64	s	Sing'por	31	88	f
Geneva	5	41	f	St'kholm	3	37	c
Gibraltar	18	64	s	Strasb'rg	5	41	c
Helsinki	1	34	sn	Sydney	25	77	s
Hong K	23	73	c	Tangier	17	63	s
Innsbruck	1	34	sn	Tel Aviv	29	84	f
Istanbul	19	66	s	Tenerife	20	68	f
Jeddah	31	88	s	Tokyo	15	59	c
Jo'burg*	24	75	f	Toronto*	4	33	c
Karachi	30	86	s	Valencia	15	59	s
L Palmas	20	68	f	Van'ver*	8	46	s
La Tpez	6	43	c	Venice	9	43	s
Lisbon	15	59	s	Vienna	4	39	sn
Locarno	11	52	f	Warsaw	5	41	c
London	6	43	c	Wash'ton*	11	52	c
L Angels*	14	57	r	Wel'mton	17	63	f
Luxembg	5	41	c	Zurich	5	41	f

* denotes figures are latest available

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 6.56 pm to 5.18 am
Bristol 7.05 pm to 5.27 am
Edinburgh 7.11 pm to 5.27 am
Manchester 7.05 pm to 5.25 am
Penzance 7.16 pm to 5.40 am

TODAY

Sun rises 5.48 am — Sun sets 6.36 pm
Moon rises 7.06 am — Moon sets 11.23 pm

First quarter March 31

London 7.57 pm to 6.15 am
Bristol 8.07 pm to 6.25 am
Edinburgh 8.13 pm to 6.24 am
Manchester 8.07 pm to 6.22 am
Penzance 8.18 pm to 6.36 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises 6.45 am — Sun sets 7.27 pm
Moon rises 8.43 am — Moon sets *** pm

*** The phenomenon does not occur

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.6	-	9	48	sunny
Anglesey	10.5	-	10	50	sunny
Aviemore	10.0	-	7	45	sunny
Belfast	9.6	-	11	52	sunny
Birmingham	10.7	-	10	50	sunny
Bognor Regis	9.1	-	11	52	sunny
Bournemouth	8.0	-	11	52	sunny
Bristol	6.3	-	11	52	bright
Buxton	10.7	-	8	46	sunny
Cardiff	10.5	-	10	50	sunny
Clacton	3.3	-	10	50	sunny
Cromer	2	0.07	7	45	bright
Douglas	12.2	-	8	46	sunny
Edinburgh	10.5	-	9	48	sunny
Exmouth	9.0	-	9	48	sunny
Falmouth	9.2	-	11	52	sunny
Glasgow	10.7	-	10	50	sunny
Guernsey	9.4	-	10	50	sunny
Hastings	7.9	-	10	50	sunny
Hunstanton	1.1	-	7	45	cloudy
Jersey	8.3	-	11	52	sunny
Kinloss	10.5	-	8	46	sunny
Leeds	10.3	-	9	48	sunny
Lerwick	7.8	0.01	5	41	sunny
Littlehampton	8.6	-	10	50	sunny
Liverpool	10.8	-	8	46	sunny
London	9.0	-	10	50	sunny
Lowestoft	2.7	0.07	7	45	cloudy
Manchester	8.9	-	10	50	sunny
Mangotsfield	4.9	0.02	8	46	sunny
Minehead	10.3	-	10	50	sunny
Morecambe	10.5	-	9	48	sunny
Newcastle	5.6	0.01	8	46	sunny
Newquay	9.4	-	10	50	sunny
Nottingham	9.3	-	9	48	sunny
Penzance	10.5	-	13	55	sunny
Plymouth	9.8	-	11	52	sunny
Poole	8.6	-	11	52	sunny
Prestwick	10.4	-	10	50	sunny
Sandown	7.7	-	11	52	sunny
Saunton Snd	10.2	-	12	54	sunny
Scarborough	2.5	0.07	6	43	cloudy
Scilly Isles	10.6	-	12	54	sunny
Shanklin	8.4	-	10	50	sunny
Southsea	7.6	-	11	52	sunny
Stornoway	10.0	-	9	48	sunny
Swanage	9.0	-	10	50	sunny
Teignmouth	9.6	-	10	50	sunny
Tenby	10.7	-	10	50	sunny
Tiree	10.1	-	10	50	sunny
Torquay	10.9	-	11	52	sunny
Weymouth	9.6	-	10	50	sunny
Wick	7.8	-	8	46	sunny
Worthing	9.7	-	10	50	sunny

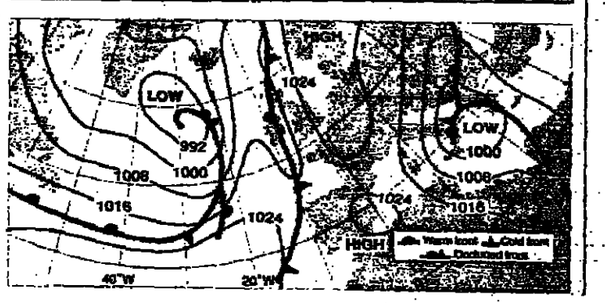
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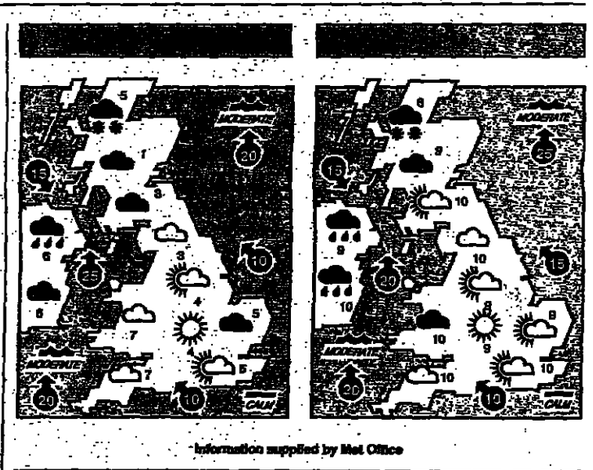
TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.20	2.00
Austria Sch	19.20	18.70
Belgium Fr	53.30	48.90
Canada $	1.978	1.818
Denmark Kr	9.96	9.16
Finland Mrk	9.43	8.63
France Fr	8.76	8.06
Germany Dm	2.57	2.37
Greece Dr	349.00	324.00
Hong Kong $	12.17	11.17
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Italy Lira	2465.00	2320.00
Japan Yen	191.00	172.00
Netherlands Gld	2.90	2.67
Norway Kr	10.94	10.14
Portugal Esc	236.80	218.80
South Africa Rd	5.45	4.75
Spain Pta	180.00	167.00
Sweden Kr	12.08	11.28
Switzerland Fr	2.38	2.20
Turkey Lira	14560.0	13560.0
USA $	1.582	1.457

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

MOON TODAY

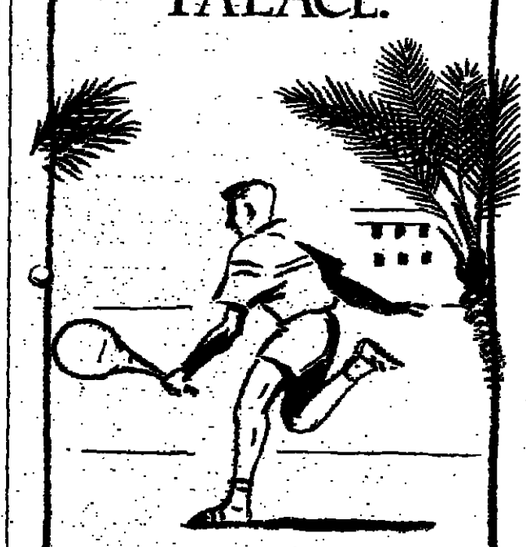




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PROFILE 20

The well-meaning chef or the chef who can cook?



ROWING 34

Pinsent offers Olympian view of Boat Race



FOOTBALL 35

Changing the snarling face of the game

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES Page 31

THE TIMES 2

SATURDAY MARCH 27 1993

WEEKEND MONEY

SAVING



Borrowers should not be so dazzled by the glamour of tax avoidance through a Pep mortgage that they fail to see high charges
Page 26

BUILDING

Buyers are showing a renewed interest in purchasing wrecks of houses and renovating them
Page 25

PAYING



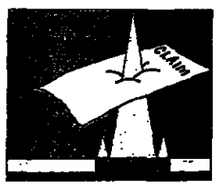
Errors at the Halifax meant a bill for £3,000 of overclaimed Miras for Sophie Bainbridge and her husband
Page 23

YIELDING



Marc Sylvain says yields on cash unit trusts should be calculated in a standard way
Page 24

WAITING



Norwich Union has not paid up eight months after a policyholder was in a road accident
Page 28

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4917 (+0.0177)
German mark.. 2.4327 (+0.0136)
Exchange index..... 79.3 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2852.9 (+0.1)
Dow Jones ..... 3457.54 (-3.78)*
Nikkei Avge 18788.70 (+23.78)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base..... 6%
3-month Interbank..... 6⅛-6%
US Federal Funds..... 3⅛%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.93-2.92%*
Long Bond..... 6.91%*

CURRENCIES

New York:	London:
£:$ 1.4910*	£:$ 1.4905
$:DM .1.6302*	£:DM ...2.4355
$:Swfr.1.5087*	£:Swfr...2.2537
$:Fr ...5.5478*	£:Fr 8.2500
$:Yen .116.38*	£:Yen ...173.65
£:SDR ..1.0673	£:ECU ..1.2537

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 332.70 ..... PM 332.70
Close 332.20-332.70
New York
Comex 332.15-332.65*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI..... 138.8 February (1.8%)
* Denotes midday trading price



On the spot: Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, has written to leaders of two unions confirming that pay will not be restrained for another year

Public sector pay will be unfrozen next year

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

The pay ceiling of 1.5 per cent which the government is applying to public sector workers will not be extended for a second year, the Treasury has told trade unions

THE government does not intend to extend this year's ceiling on public sector pay for another year despite fears that pent-up wage demands could explode once the ceiling is removed next year, threatening to rupture the Treasury's inflation targets.

In correspondence with two civil service unions, the Chancellor laid to rest press speculation last week that the pay ceiling would be extended. His view is that extending the limit on public sector pay awards would not be practical, particularly because 1994 sees incomes squeezed by the higher taxes announced in the Budget, including VAT on domestic fuel and higher National Insurance contributions.

Already embroiled in a political dispute about the extension of VAT, the government also faces mounting discontent from trade unions with the Fire Brigades Union pressing for strike action over the pay ceiling and miners, London bus workers and rail men due to strike next week over job losses.

The government announced a 1.5 per cent ceiling on public sector pay in last year's Autumn Statement, covering the fiscal year 1993-4, and speculation emerged last week that some senior ministers were warning the government that it would have to impose a new ceiling on public sector pay for another year if tough Treasury spending targets were to be met.

However, Norman Lamont has confirmed that this is not his view. Last week, he was asked to confirm verbal promises in negotiations with civil service unions last November that the policy of pay restraint would not last another year and his statement that he did not believe it would be "practical" for the policy to continue beyond one year.

In a reply to a letter from the general secretaries of the FDA and the IPMS, two of the civil service unions, the Chancellor said: "I can confirm that your letter is a fair and accurate reflection of my remarks at the meeting with you on 24 November."

The Treasury also confirmed that the government, in the formal letter offering a 1 per cent pay rise in the year from April 1 to the National Union of Civil and Public Servants, which represents civil services executives and office support staff, intended to return to normal wage bargaining arrangements for next year's settlement. With pay settlements in the private sector already at historically low levels and still falling, it may be that the government will be able to negotiate pay increases close to or even below the 1.5 per cent ceiling for this year without imposing an extension of the current pay limits.

There is believed to be some discomfort among senior ministers about whether departments will be able to meet demands for anything but minimum wage rises next year.

IBM brings in outsider to replace failed chief

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

IBM, the world's largest computer maker, announced that it had ousted John Akers, its chairman and chief executive, and replaced him with the man who has been running RJR Nabisco, the tobacco and food company.

Louis Gerstner, 51, who has been RJR's chairman and chief executive for four years, was selected from 125 candidates to be IBM's sixth head — and the first from outside the company. Before joining RJR, he was a McKinsey management consultant, then chief executive of American Express's travel business. IBM refused to disclose details of his salary, but Mr Gerstner's total compensation with RJR last year topped $10 million.

Mr Akers, 58, who has run IBM for eight of his 33 years with the company, had ambitions to push sales to $100 billion by the time he was 60. But sales last year were $65 billion and falling. Mr Akers will formally bow out next Thursday, with the company facing a $300 million first-quarter loss.

IBM, battered by recession and high costs, is at its lowest ebb since it began almost 80 years ago. Last year, it plunged almost $5 billion into the red; this week, Moody's Investors Services downgraded its credit rating by two notches on $18 billion of debt.

The near three-month search for a new IBM chief was notable for the number of high-profile industry figures who publicly ruled themselves out of the job. IBM has cut 100,000 jobs from its 1985 employment peak, and is expected to axe at least 25,000 more this year. Mr Gerstner said every part of the business would be scrutinised. He saw no quick fix. "I have no idea how long it will take," he said.

He has no experience in the computer industry, though his brother Richard is a highly regarded former IBM executive. IBM shares, which have halved this year, were marked up yesterday.

Colleagues say Mr Gerstner has an easy-going manner, but little mercy with those who fail to follow his lead. At McKinsey, he urged surgeons to discharge him early after he had severed two fingers in a lawnmower accident, so he could attend a Monday morning meeting.

At RJR Nabisco, the best known products of which include Shredded Wheat and Camel cigarettes, Mr Gerstner's job was to cut the $22 billion of debt taken on in 1989 when Kohlberg Kravis Roberts took the company private for almost $26 billion in the world's largest leveraged buyout.

In four years, he sold businesses worth $6 billion, cut the debt in half, axed 3,000 jobs and sold 11 corporate jets. Net profit last year was $299 million, compared with a 1989 loss of $1.1 billion.



Gerstner: "little mercy"

Taxman seeks £30m over mortgages

BY SARA MCCONNELL

BANKS and building societies owe an estimated £30 million this year for wrongly claimed tax relief from couples who have married after both claiming £30,000 under the mortgage interest relief at source scheme, the Inland Revenue says. The Revenue has signalled its intention to clamp down on lenders who claim too much back on behalf of their borrowers.

Revenue to act, page 23

Advertisers switch off HTV

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

A SERIOUS decline in advertising revenue and a rag-bag of one-off costs pushed HTV Group, widely regarded as the least financially stable of the independent television companies that won franchises in the latest round, into a loss in 1992.

HTV, which serves Wales and the West of England, incurred a £2.01 million loss in the year to end-December, compared with profits of £441,000. Louis Sherwood, the chairman, said the company was budgeting for a profit in the current year, despite the need to find the £20.5 million it has pledged to pay the government as the basic payment under the new franchise terms.

But the City marked HTV shares sharply back, with a fall of 8½p to 29½p. Analysts say any profit this year will be slight and will require a sharp boost in advertising revenue, which fell 5 per cent in 1992.

HTV has had to shelve the final dividend, after dropping the interim payment — last time a total of 3.75p was paid. Mr Sherwood said the group had adequate banking facilities to cope with the expected peak for borrowings this year, which should reach £31 million by May.

HTV is in discussions with a number of large overseas media groups with a view to putting together a joint production company. The company is also understood to be keen to find a partner prepared to take an equity stake. As well as providing fresh finance, this would also make the group less vulnerable to takeover should existing rules on the purchase of television companies be weakened.

Glut clips wings of kiwi growers

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT



IT MAY look like a furry potato, but the kiwi fruit is bread and butter to the farmers of North Island, New Zealand, who are now seeing the downside of what was one of the great success stories of the agri-business.

The New Zealanders, who transformed the unmarketable Chinese gooseberry, *Actinidia chinensis*, into a highly saleable fruit named after their flightless national bird, have seen world prices collapse, their marketing board almost bust, and their former near-monopoly undermined by other producers.

What a decade or so ago was exotic fruit, has become so abundant and commonplace that it has even started to undercut the price of the ubiquitous Golden Delicious. The spectacular growth in sales since the seventies far exceeded world demand and consumer fatigue appears to have set in.

Dave Carniss, produce manager at Safeways at Wapping in London, said prices had almost halved since last summer. On special offer, he was selling Italian kiwis at 10p each — well below the unit price of apples and oranges, even though the kiwi outshines its rivals in terms of vitamins.

The price collapse meant that New Zealand farmers were last year forced to throw a third of their crop, or 600 million kiwis, away. Price falls in Europe were caused by a bumper apple crop and ever-cheaper bananas.

The consequences have been dire in New Zealand, where farmers have suffered for years from falling prices for wool and meat. The Kiwifruit Marketing Board, which has a near-global monopoly on selling the New Zealand kiwis, badly misjudged demand and prices and has run up debts of £28 million. Cold store owners are going unpaid. State aid has been requested.

This week, the banks stepped in at the eleventh hour to finance this year's harvest in New Zealand, rescuing the marketing board from an attack by a rival organisation closely linked to the big international fruit growers.

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BUSINESS PROFILE: **Gerry Robinson**

Granada's chef seeks right recipe

Martin Waller *puts the spotlight on a chief executive who has brought catering experience to television*


SIMON WALKER

Mixing the ingredients: Gerry Robinson, when challenged, says: "Do you want the well-meaning chef or the chef who can cook?"

Gerry Robinson is using every ounce of his Irish charm to deny the undeniable. The attempt by the Labour party to strip Granada of its television franchise, renewed in Parliament this week, is in no way connected with the arrival of an "ignorant upstart caterer" at the head of Granada in October 1991, he says. "It certainly hasn't been a direct attack on me. It stems from what has happened at Granada TV."

A little scepticism is in order here. Robinson's appointment followed the ousting of Derek Lewis, after Granada's computer maintenance over-expanded into messy grief and dragged much of the rest of the group down with it. A £310 million rescue rights issue pulled Granada out of the mire, but the price was Lewis's head.

Robinson joined as a competent, capable accountant with hands-on experience of a variety of businesses, including leisure. Within two months it was as if King Herod had been put in charge of the children's ward.

The sacking of David Plowright, head of Granada television and one of the leading lights in the overheared television business, and his replacement by yet another accountant, set the luvvies and the chattering classes all atwitter. Some of the *Coronation Street* cast, no less, were up in arms. A fax from John Cleese was the most quoted and least fully quotable response. "F*** off out of it, you ignorant upstart caterer," it read.

Robinson insists that he no longer has the offending fax. But the fact that he and the comedian-turned-businessman are due to lunch together in May is testimony to the Granada chief executive's powers of persuasive tact. His calm reply was that he was clearly a greater fan of Cleese than Cleese was of him.

The affair goes to the heart of the changes made in television after the introduction of a bidding system that was designed to import Thatcherite market values into what had always been a comfy cartel. Granada is one of the aristocrats of televison, maker of *The Jewel in the Crown*, *Brideshead Revisited* and *Prime Suspect* as well as any number of well-meaning, left-leaning documentaries. Under the old regime, artistic merit tended to outweigh profitability on the scales of importance. Robinson's bid to import financial disciplines was resented as the intrusion of accountancy into the sacred mysteries of art and current affairs. But it was Plowright, brother-in-law of the late Lord Olivier, and not Robinson who had to go.

"A lot less actually went on within the company than was suggested by the press," claims Robinson, who tends to cast the blame on the Fourth Estate, insofar as someone so emollient can talk in terms of blame.

He now insists that the attack on Granada's franchise is not from the Labour party *per se* and is not restricted to Granada alone. Neither is entirely true. The assault has been directed by Ann Clwyd, Labour's shadow heritage secretary, and while Ms Clwyd has her criticisms of other television companies, Granada was the sole subject of a substantial dossier to the Independent Television Commission, the industry's governing body. This drew the ITC's attention to job losses at the company and to alleged breaches of promises made when the company regained the franchise with a relatively cheap £9 million bid. Hyperbole is the very stuff of politics, not to mention of good soap opera. "This is a story of boardroom savagery, the like of which British TV has never seen," Ms Clwyd told the ITC. "It was made clear by the board of Granada television that the main criterion of success was the return to shareholders." This is a view on which Robinson is presumably in full agreement, although he would not couch it in such terms. He says that Granada and other television companies must exist within the marketplace that was created by the government, rather than by the industry itself. Any complaints, by inference, should be directed to Number 10, or to its previous occupant who was so keen to push through the changes to the franchise system.

"When you get underneath the TV business, people are people no matter what industry they are in," Robinson says soothingly. Facing attacks on the quality of Granada's output, he retreats to safe populist ground: "Quality is abused as a term — people put an intellectual slant on it. There are intellectual qualities but there are other qualities as well." Of Labour's attacks he says: "You have to treat these things for what they are, a terrible waste of time. They simply get in the way of running a business in an effective way. There's always a tendency to look back and glorify what was in the past, but that doesn't pay the wages." The ninth child of a Donegal carpenter who moved to England, Robinson went to a seminary and was bound for the priesthood before a crisis of faith intervened. "I think I saw the light in an entirely different way to St Paul. It all just struck me as wrong — I don't think it hangs together."

> 'I think I saw the light in an entirely different way to St Paul. It all just struck me as wrong'

The seminary did leave him with a love of painting — "you can look up and two hours have gone by. I suppose that's real relaxation" — and music, favourite opera *La Traviata*. He started work as a cost clerk at Lesney Products, maker of Matchbox toys, and progressed through a fairly typical career for an upwardly mobile businessman for the 1980s.

This included the seemingly obligatory stint at Grand Metropolitan, where he was put in charge, against his better wishes, of the catering side. The £163 million buyout of what became Compass Group was the biggest such at that time; Compass is now worth twice that on the stock market. Robinson's shares are long since sold: although he is chary of talking about money, he is unlikely to have walked away with less than £5 million.

Options granted when he came to Granada are now worth £2 a share, giving a further paper profit of almost £1.5 million. At the age of 44, this is a man who could live out the rest of his life in leisure, a course of action he has since granted to three out of four of the main division heads at Granada, although one was a straight retirement.

Robinson has few regrets about the tough actions he needed to take. "You owe more to the people employed in total to get the management of a business right than you owe to one individual who is getting it wrong," he says. "The sin is to get the structure of a company wrong. It's a simplistic idea that you get pleasure from hacking through rafts of people whose lives are disrupted by it."

As to the qualities that have brought him from humble beginnings, he says: "I've great clarity about what feels right, and it does seem to work consistently. Once I've done it I really don't like things moving other than in a well-thought-through and consistent way — you mustn't restructure every few weeks."

This might sound like typically self-regarding executive trumpet-blowing, except that it comes from a man who has already moved corporate mountains. Granada's pre-tax profits, which tumbled to £57 million in 1991, should comfortably top £150 million this year, and Robinson seems into the bargain to have smoothed most of the ruffled feathers at the television side. That he has done so by making the odd enemy is no surprise.

He reverts to a typical catering metaphor: "Do you want the well-meaning chef or the chef who can cook?"

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Canary Wharf creditors likely to accept payment

UNSECURED creditors of Olympia & York's Canary Wharf development are likely to accept an offer of a 15p in the pound dividend from the administrators of the insolvent Docklands office complex. Nigel Hamilton, joint administrator from Ernst & Young, the accountant, said the estimated 1,200 unsecured creditors were unlikely to get anything at all if they turned down the proposal and Canary Wharf went into receivership. Mr Hamilton said the administrators did not know the precise amount now outstanding and had asked for an update from the unsecured creditors.

Canary Wharf's financiers, a syndicate of 11 banks including Barclays and Lloyds that are owed almost £600 million, have agreed to provide the extra funds necessary to pay the unsecured creditors. According to Mr Hamilton, the company would lose substantial advantages, including tax breaks, if it went into receivership. He said that he believed the banking group's contribution to the Jubilee Line extension would go ahead if enough unsecured creditors agreed to the 15p offer. If the creditors accept the preliminary offer, the administrators will present a plan for a company voluntary arrangement, which, if approved, will enable Canary Wharf to come out of administration, possibly after the end of June.

Harland loses £9.45m

HARLAND and Wolff, the Belfast shipbuilder, has begun a £3 million research and development programme to develop a new generation of very large crude carriers (VLCCs) of more than 250,000 tonnes. Dr John Parker, chairman and chief executive, also reported that the group showed a loss of £9.45 million in 1992, against a profit of £12.6 million in the preceding year. If losses associated with the last contract accepted before privatisation were stripped out, together with special and stautory redundancy payments and other exceptional items, the profit would have been £6.5 million.

Fenner warning

FENNER, the engineering group, said it expected to report an overall loss for the six months to February 28. Although it had benefited from domestic cost-cutting measures, trading had continued to deteriorate in European distribution networks as a result of weak demand. Fenner shares fell 22p to 65p. The uncertainty over the pit closure programme also had an adverse impact. "On present trends, it is most unlikely that there will be a recovery in the second half of sufficient magnitude to produce a profit for ordinary shareholders for the year as a whole," the company added.

Hope at Hepworth

HEPWORTH, the building materials and industrial group that cut its workforce by 1,000 to 8,000 last year, says there are encouraging signs of recovery in some of its British operations, but continental businesses are less buoyant. Professor Sir Roland Smith, chairman, says the group is strongly positioned to benefit from the improving UK economic environment after reporting that 1992 pre-tax profits fell from £70 million to £44.8 million. The year's total dividend is unchanged at 14.85p a share, out of net earnings of 15.6p (24.1p) a share.

Garton posts a fall

GARTON Engineering says that weak markets and reduced insurance paymenis it received in the wake of an extensive plant fire in 1990 led to a sharp fall from £1.36 million to £254,000 in pre-tax profits earned in the year ended December. The final dividend is cut from 5.25p to 3p a share, making 4p (7p) for the year. Aubrey Garton, the chairman, expects domestic and exports markets to be fairly static in the short term. A further redundancy programme has been implemented and wage increases have been restricted.

Microvitec cuts loss

MICROVITEC, a computer peripherals business quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, cut pre-tax losses to £2.14 million, from £3.85 million, in the year to December 31. Continuing operations returned to profit but there was a sharp downturn in the computer distribution division. There is again no dividend. The full-year losses compare with a £62,000 profit at the halfway stage. James Bailey, the chairman, said continuing businesses would continue to perform well and would generate cash throughout 1993. The shares fell by 2½p to 26½p.

Portmeirion leaps

PORTMEIRION Potteries, the pottery and tableware manufacturer based in Staffordshire, lifted profits 40.5 per cent last year, easily outstripping a 10 per cent rise in sales, after significant improvements in productivity. Pre-tax profits rose from £2.6 million to £3.7 million in the year to December. The company said its new pattern, Welsh Dresser, was well received, particularly in America, helping group sales rise to £22.5 million from £20.4 million. A final dividend of 5.5p a share makes 7.75p (7.35p), payable from earnings of 22.67p a share (16.68p).

Moorfield slides

MOORFIELD Estates, a property company that acquired new management in a reverse takeover by Grosvenor Terrace Developments last year, reported a bigger pre-tax loss of £2.2 million (£1.2 million loss) after a £1.1 million writedown in the value of its trading properties. The figures for the 14 months to December 31 do not include the disposal of the group's residential business to the former directors for a profit of £200,000, which has been taken below the line. Net asset value fell from 64p to 48p but rental income increased from £1.1 million to £1.7 million. There is no dividend.

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Inflation shadow falls on US growth

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

THE US economy showed robust growth during the last quarter of 1992, with a strong increase in consumer spending and corporate profits. Official statistics, however, suggest that inflation is rising faster than expected.

The Commerce Department announced a small downward revision of fourth-quarter gross domestic product growth, from an annualised rate of 4.8 per cent to 4.7 per cent. The data that appeared to cause the greatest unease among Wall Street economists, though, was the revision of the rise in the GDP fixed-weight price index, from 2.9 to 3.4 per cent. Given the patchy nature of US economic recovery, inflation is not expected to rebound to such an extent that it forces the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates. M2, the Fed's preferred money supply indicator, remains depressed, which would suggest low inflation.


Brown: "upturn at hand"

Commerce Department statistics suggest that pre-tax corporate profits rose by 10.8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1992. In the year as a whole, the US economy grew by 2.1 per cent, and the consensus forecast for this year is 3.2 per cent. Ron Brown, the commerce secretary, said the data confirmed that "the beginnings of a meaningful economic recovery are at hand".

Ironically, too much good news about the US economy could jeopardise a crucial element of the president's economic proposals — the $16 billion economic stimulus package. This is before the Senate, having been passed by the House last week. Although the Senate approved Mr Clinton's Budget by a comfortable majority, its vote on the stimulus package is expected to be closer. Conservative senators argue that a stimulus is not needed in an economic recovery.

☐ Sterling made gains yesterday. It ended at 79.3 on the trade-weighted index, compared with its close on Thursday at 78.8, and was quoted at DM2.4327, up from DM2.4191. The latest Royal Bank of Scotland quarterly survey of smaller exporters showed that firms are responding positively to sterling's devaluation. Of those surveyed, 51 per cent reported a rise in export sales over the past year, and 26 per cent a drop.

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT securities had another quiet day, despite gains on European bond markets. The yield curve steepened as the long end of the market was sold off in advance of next week's £5 billion gilts auction.

Despite opening above Thursday's close, the gilt future drifted lower during the day, falling through the important £105$^{8}/_{32}$ support level, finishing 12 ticks lower at £105$^{4}/_{32}$, on a moderate volume of 29,000 contracts traded for the June series.

Among stocks, shorts held up reasonably well, with the benchmark 7¼ per cent 1998 issue closing down ⅛ at £102$^{11}/_{32}$ to yield 6.75 per cent, while Exchequer 9¼ per cent 1998 also eased ⅛ to £111$^{11}/_{32}$. But the 8 per cent 2003 stock fell 21 ticks to £$^{51}/_{32}$, yielding 7.8 per cent, while Treasury 9 per cent 2012 fell 15 ticks to £104$^{26}/_{32}$.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
104¾	103⅝	Treas 12¼% 1993	103⅝	-⅛	12.28	5.70
102⅝	95⅞	Funds 9% 1993	102⅝	-⅛	8.89	5.73
107⅛	102⅞	Treas 13¾% 1993	105⅝	-⅛	13.02	5.64
102⅞	96⅛	Treas 8½% 1994	102⅛	...	8.30	5.67
112⅝	104¼	Treas 14½% 1994	107⅛	...	13.43	5.65
110⅛	103⅝	Exch 13¾% 1994	108¼	...	12.69	5.77
102⅞	98⅛	Treas 10% 1994	104⅛	...	9.55	5.80
110⅜	103⅛	Exch 12½% 1994	108⅜	-⅛	11.49	5.92
105⅛	98⅛	Treas 9% 1994	104⅛	-⅛	8.60	5.97
111⅛	102⅝	Treas 12% 1995	110⅛	-⅛	10.90	6.11
98⅛	88⅛	Gas 3% 1990/95	98⅛ †	...	3.12	4.92
109⅛	99⅛	Exch 10¾% 1995	108⅝	-⅛	9.93	6.10
116⅛	106⅛	Treas 12¾% 1995	115⅛	-⅛	11.04	6.28
122⅛	109⅛	Treas 14% 1996	119⅛	-⅛	11.76	6.51
125⅝	113⅝	Treas 15½% 1996	125⅛	-⅛	12.32	6.60
124⅛	108	Exch 13¾% 1996	118⅝	-⅛	11.58	6.64
111⅛	98⅛	Conv 10% 1996	110⅛	-⅛	9.05	6.69
127⅜	109⅛	Treas 13¾% 1997	123⅛	-⅛	10.91	6.85
134⅝	130⅝	Exch 10¾% 1997	112⅞	-⅛	9.33	6.79
102⅛	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	100⅝	-⅛	8.15	6.79
132⅝	117⅛	Exch 15% 1997	130⅞ †	-⅛	11.47	7.03
112⅞	97⅛	Exch 9¾% 1998	111⅛	-⅛	8.76	6.94
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
105⅛	98⅝	Treas 7¼% 1998	102⅛ †	-⅛	7.14	6.76
101⅛	95⅛	Treas 6¼% 1995-98	100 †	-⅛	6.75	6.75
138⅛	122⅝	Treas 15⅛% 1998	136⅛ †	-⅛	11.32	7.25
122⅞	107⅛	Exch 12% 1998	121¼	-⅛	9.91	7.36
112⅛	97⅛	Treas 9½% 1998	112⅝	-⅛	8.56	7.16
124⅝	109⅛	Exch 12¼% 1999	123	-⅛	9.96	7.42
117⅛	101⅛	Treas 10¼% 1999	115⅝	-⅛	9.06	7.36
112⅞	100⅛	Conv 10½% 1999	115⅛	-⅛	8.60	7.33
105⅝	96⅛	Conv 9% 2000	109⅝	-⅛	8.23	7.27
136	114⅝	Treas 13% 2000	129⅝	-⅛	10.06	7.70
115⅛	99⅛	Treas 10% 2001	113⅛	-⅛	8.80	7.68
132⅜	113⅛	Treas 14% 1998-01	127⅛	-⅛	10.98	7.78
114⅛	98⅛	Treas 9½% 2002	112⅝	-⅛	8.43	7.83
52⅝	46⅛	Treas 8pc 2003	51⅛	...	7.85	7.80
116⅛	100⅛	Treas 10% 2003	114⅝	-⅛	8.77	8.00
122⅝	107⅛	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120⅝	-⅛	9.53	7.99
74⅛	59⅛	Funds 3½% 1999-04	72⅝	-⅛	4.84	7.11
112⅝	96⅝	Conv 9½% 2004	110⅛-7	-⅛	8.63	8.16
112⅞	96⅛	Conv 9½% 2005	110⅝ †	-⅛	8.63	8.17
131⅛	116⅛	Treas 12¾% 2000-05	129⅛	-⅛	9.66	8.31
101⅛	85⅛	Treas 9% 2002-06	99⅛-7	-⅛	8.05	8.12
125⅝	110⅝	Treas 13½% 2003-07	123⅛	-⅛	9.53	8.26
106⅛	89⅝	Treas 8½% 2007	103⅝	-⅛	8.34	8.27
139⅛	122⅝	Treas 12¾% 2004-08	135⅝	-⅛	9.44	8.30
LONGS (over 15 years)						
100⅝	93⅛	Treas 9% 2008	105⅛ †	-⅛	8.57	8.52
99⅛	88⅛	Treas 8% 2009	97⅛	-⅛	8.23	8.25
108⅛	92⅛	Conv 9% 2011	106⅛	-⅛	8.48	8.47
108⅝	95⅛	Treas 9% 2012	106⅝	-⅛	8.48	8.46
96⅛	82⅛	Treas 8¾% 2008-12	76⅛	-⅛	7.43	8.19
97⅛	81⅛	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	93⅝	-⅛	8.28	8.40
135⅛	118⅛	Exch 12% 2013-17	131⅛	-⅛	9.15	8.69
102⅛	91⅛	Treas 8¾% 2017	102⅛	-⅛	8.54	8.52
UNDATED						
48	39⅛	Consols 4%	46⅛	-⅛	8.53	...
42⅛	35⅛	War Ln 3½%	40⅝	-⅛	8.58	...
69⅛	58	Conv 5½%	65⅞ †	-⅛	8.63	...
31⅛	26⅛	Consols 2½%	30⅛ †	-⅛	8.13	...
30⅛	24⅛	Treas 2½%	28⅝ †	...	8.81	...
INDEX-LINKED						
133⅛	122⅛	Treas IL 2% 1996	132⅛	-⅛	...	1.62
192⅞	173⅝	Treas IL 2½ 1998	186⅛ †	-⅛	1.60	2.49
109⅝	102⅛	Treas IL 4⅛% 1996	108⅛ †	-⅛	2.09	2.68
150⅛	136⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2001	145⅝	-⅛	2.66	1.91
183⅝	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162⅝	-⅛	2.81	1.70
111⅝	101⅛	Treas IL 4⅛% 2004	110⅝ †	-⅛	2.98	3.25
170⅛	137⅛	Treas IL 2% 2006	166⅝	-⅛	2.99	3.22
154⅜	124⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152⅜	-⅛	3.18	3.39
150⅛	120⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2011	147⅝	-⅛	3.26	3.45
131⅛	108⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129⅝	-⅛	3.33	3.50
159⅝	112⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2016	157⅛	-⅛	3.39	3.55
139⅝	107⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2020	138⅛ †	-⅛	3.45	3.59
111⅛	88⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109⅝	-⅛	3.49	3.61
117⅛	91⅝	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	116	-⅛	3.50	3.63

Brown & Tawse to shed 150 jobs

BY MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

BROWN & Tawse, a distributor of pipes and steel, is shedding a fifth of its workforce as part of a widespread restructuring to stem heavy losses.

More than 150 jobs will go in 1993 as the company cuts costs and sells non-core businesses. Shareholders were warned of pre-tax losses of £19.8 million in the current year, which ends on Wednesday. These include exceptional charges of £10.9 million against restructuring costs. The shares fell 2p to 61p.

Brown & Tawse has not made a profit since 1990 and last time incurred pre-tax losses of of £975,000. In the current year, losses were £2.8 million before tax at the interim stage. Richard Wilson, chief executive, who joined in October and ordered an immediate review of the business, said Gil Black was resigning as chairman; he will be succeeded by Donald McFarlane. Edwin Hartley, managing director of Brown & Tawse Ltd, the main operating subsidiary, has also resigned.

After write-offs, gearing will rise to 85 per cent. The company's bankers have offered support "on acceptable terms".

Provisions will include £5 million charged against the write-off of the investment in the company's computer systems, redundancies of £1.8 million, vacant property provisions of £3.6 million and other charges of £500,000.

هكذا من الأصل

Lec Refrigeration blames EC for 360 redundancies

BY MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

LEC Refrigeration blamesEC environmental legislation for the loss of 360 jobs at its factory in Bognor Regis, West Sussex, announced yesterday.

Lec, which has about a fifth of the UK fridge market, is to stop making its own compressors from May 28. Its output of 300,000 a year is considered too small to warrant further investment to meet EC energy conservation standards. Instead, the company is to buy compressors from Denmark. The redundancies and reorganisation, incurring an exceptional cost of £2.46 million, will reduce Lec's workforce to 960.

"The refrigeration industry is currently facing major changes in its regulatory environment, brought on by EC directives with particular emphasis on energy conservation," the company said. "It has become clear to the board that as a direct result of these changes, it is no longer viable to maintain its compressor manufacturing base, which has too small a critical mass to justify the levels of capital expenditure required."

Lec, in which Italy's Candy has a 17 per cent stake, is cutting costs after being hit by a downturn in demand for white goods.

Last year, Lec incurred a trading loss of £397,000, leaving a pre-tax deficit of £2.9 million after exceptional charges, compared with a £1.2 million profit in the previous 12 months. Sales eased to £41.1 million, from £48 million.

The company has cut the final dividend to 5p, from 10.5p, reducing the total payout for the year to 9p, from 14.5p. There was a loss of 31.94p a share, against earnings of 13.28p, leaving a deficit of £2.5 million to be met from reserves.

Current trading is described as difficult, though there has been a small sales increase compared with the first quarter of last year. Lec hopes signs of a pick-up in the housing market will lead to a revival in demand for consumer goods. Its balance sheet is strong, with no gearing.

City speculation about a bid by Candy for Lec has persisted since the death of Charles Purley, the founder and chairman, in December 1991. Mr Purley's estate and the Purley family trust hold almost 32 per cent of the company's shares.

Over 200 jobs go at Leyland van plant

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

RECEIVERS to Leyland DAF, the UK arm of the collapsed commercial vehicle group, are making more workers redundant.

Dismissal notices were handed to 227 employees at the van plant in Birmingham. Further reviews are taking place at the truck plant in Leyland, Lancashire, the Albion axles works in Glasgow, the Chorley parts warehouse and the marketing HQ in Thame, Oxfordshire. However, prospects for the Leyland plant improved markedly yesterday when DAF Trucks, the state-sponsored Belgian-Dutch company rescued from the collapse of the continental operations, said it would sell all non-military output from Leyland both in Britain and on the Continent.

The receivers made 1,633 workers redundant from the British operations on February 12, nine days after being appointed. They said then that the cutbacks — a third of the workforce — would bring output into line with the reduced level of demand.

Output at the van plant has been cut back by another 20 per cent to 200 vehicles a week, compared with 350 a week before DAF, the Anglo-Dutch parent group, was forced to seek protection from creditors. The receivers blamed the demand slump ahead of the new August registration letter, and the loss of export markets, for the cuts.



MARC HILL

Cautious: David Bowden, left, finance director, with John Pike, managing director of Watts Blake Bearne

Clay mineral supplier shapes better figure

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

WATTS Blake Bearne, international supplier of clay minerals for ceramic sanitaryware, tableware and tiles, says the weakness of economies in Germany and elsewhere in Europe tempers its optimism with some caution when viewing 1993 trading prospects.

Pre-tax profits in the year to end-December rose from £5.67 million to £7.25 million on sales of £69.8 million (£61.4 million), and the year's total dividend is increased from 9.3p to 10.7p a share.

The group, where David Bowden is finance director and John Pike managing director, says many of its main markets have been firm in recent months, though trading conditions in several sectors were very competitive.

There are encouraging opportunities in America, Mexico, the Middle and Far East, and also in Central and Eastern Europe.

In January, three shareholders, who collectively own 45.2 per cent of the group, said purchasers were being sought under the terms of their concert party agreement for their 45.2 per cent stake. To date, there has been no further announcement by the concert party, Watts Blake Bearne notes.

Gabicci board split over offer by Helene

BY MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

A BOARDROOM split has opened at Gabicci, the casual menswear manufacturer, after a £5.5 million takeover bid from Helene, which makes own-label garments.

Gabicci has announced a £476,000 pre-tax loss for the first half to December 19 against a £538,000 profit, after a raft of one-off provisions wiped out operating profits of £61,000. The half-way dividend is dropped — last time it was 1.4p.

Jack Sofier, the Gabicci chairman, Raymond, his nephew, and three non-executive directors have accepted an all-share offer from Helene. The two companies were in talks last year, but these were broken off after some executive directors, including Michael Abrahams, the now-departed managing director, opposed the link.

Helene is offering 2.043 of its shares for every Gabicci share, valuing these at 48p against a price in the market of 42½p, up 1½p, yesterday. The offer has received undertakings of acceptance from 30.1 per cent of the share capital.

But a group of dissident shareholders, including two executive directors and speaking for just 0.3 per cent, is opposing the offer, saying the two companies are commercially incompatible and a merger would offer no synergy. A third executive has stood down from the board and therefore is taking no view on the offer, and there are suggestions of a rival bid.

Airlines look at merger

Scandinavian Airlines System, KLM, the Dutch airline, Swissair and Austrian Airlines are considering a merger as one of many options being looked at by special working groups, SAS said.

A spokesman said the working groups were scheduled to report to their respective boards by the middle of next month. Recommendations are likely to be put to the owners by the summer.

Minorco move

Minorco, the cash-rich natural resources group, plans to help Ivernia West, the Irish exploration company in which it has a 24.5 per cent stake, to pay $66 million for a 52.5 per cent stake being offered by Chevron Minerals, in a zinc-lead Lisheen project in County Tipperary.

Bank boost

The operating profits of Commerzbank of Germany rose 10.2 per cent in the first two months of this year compared with the similar period in 1992. Net interest income in January-February 1993 was up 8.6 per cent.

UDO payout up

UDO Holdings, the office products supplier, raised its interim dividend to 2.07p (1.94p) despite a decline in taxable profits from £2.7 million to £1.4 million in the six months to end-January.

EFM offer

EFM Dragon Trust's £126 million offer for the shares of Drayton Asia Trust is due to close on Tuesday and the bid looks likely to succeed.

National Express steers ahead

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

NATIONAL Express, the long-distance bus group, is eyeing up two deals, one large, one small, in transport and passenger handling.

The group has net cash of £13 million after its flotation in December and yesterday beat its pre-tax profit forecast of £6.5 million in the prospectus with £6.8 million. The shares increased 1p to 192p against the 165p December issue price. Earnings came out at 16.8p.

Assuming same-again passenger numbers of 10.5 million, National Express is expected to make £7.5 million in the current year. About 11.8 million were carried in the previous year, which recorded a £1.2 million loss.

NEL, the long-distance coach subsidiary, made £4.5 million and stands to benefit from better marketing and computerised ticketing now being introduced as part of a £5 million investment. Eurolines, which runs coach services to Europe, made £1.1 million and Airport Coach Services chipped in £740,000.

On prospects, Ray McEnhill, the chief executive, said: "National Express Limited follows the economy very closely because the business depends on discretionary spenders. In the early weeks of this year, there was not enough evidence that the recession was over." The other two businesses are said to be quite well up in the current year.

National Express said that because of the present state of the economy and the seasonal nature of the main business, it was too early to form a clear view of the outturn for the year. However, management actions already taken and in progress should enable the group's core activities to perform satisfactorily in 1993.



Faring well: Ray McEnhill, left, with Adam Mills, his deputy

Bank plays down bailout

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England secretly bailed out about five small banking institutions to the tune of hundreds of millions of pounds to prevent their collapse and avert what it describes as "a potentially serious crisis".

It is understood to have kept at least 20 authorised banking institutions under close scrutiny following the sudden withdrawal of wholesale deposits from the banks after the collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, but arranged to bail out fewer than ten.

The Bank has confirmed it provided support but dismissed speculation that as many as 60 banks were given a £1 billion lifeboat.

News of the support operation came from Lord Spens, the former merchant banker, in questions tabled in the House of Lords. Lord Spens will create further upset on Monday when he plans to table further questions. He said yesterday he wants to know why depositors in City Merchants Bank, part of Invesco MIM group, were protected while those who put their money in BCCI were not.

Lord Spens had asked how many institutions were included in the lifeboat and the value of facilities. He also asked whether the government was aware of the role of the Bank in arranging £40 million support for City Merchants Bank from National Westminster.

The Earl of Caithness replied yesterday, saying it was for the Bank to determine its policy on answering questions concerning its relationships with particular financial institutions.

Lord Spens said that the answer was disappointing.

A Bank spokesman said: "We cannot say which banks we have given support to or give any idea of the scale."

He said: "With the very nature of these arrangements, to make them work, you have to make them confidential."

The Bank refused to comment on its role in organising a £200 million support operation for National Home Loans' National Mortgage Bank subsidiary, after the lender suffered a run on funds following the BCCI collapse. The eight largest UK clearing banks were also involved in the support operation.

NHL relied on funding from local councils, which raced to withdraw their cash to deposit it instead with the large clearing banks and the top building societies.

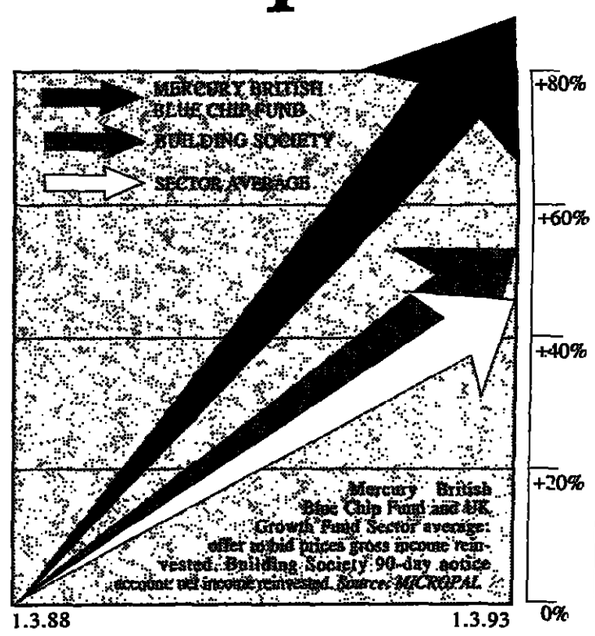
At the time, NHL said it hoped it would not have to use the funds, but Jonathan Perry, NHL's chairman since the start of 1992, said yesterday that when a facility like that is put in place it would be used. He refused to say whether the loan has yet been repaid. The NMB is being wound down.

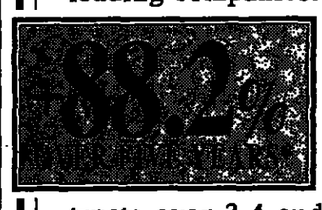
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STOCK MARKET

Shares enjoy a short-lived surge

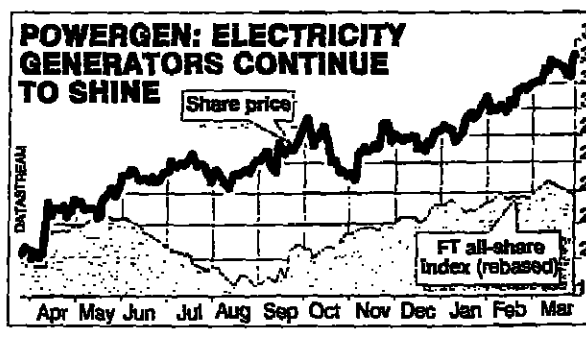
EQUITIES ended the two-week Budget account on a dull note as *end-of-account position-squaring* and a general lack of interest stifled an early *attempt at a rally*.

Shares enjoyed a shortlived surge on the back of a promising *CBI survey on prospects* for growth in the UK economy and a stronger futures market after *buoyant overnight performances* in New York and the Far East. But a lack of follow-through and a mixed start to trading on Wall Street did little to lift sentiment in London, and a one-time gain of 20.9 points was wiped out.

The FT-SE 100 index ended 0.1 up at 2,852.9, giving a loss *of 63 points over the two-week* account. Further evidence of profit-taking among second *liners saw the FT-SE Mid* index fall 14.6 to 3,099.

Volume was heavy, bol*stered by more seasonal bed*-and-breakfast deals designed to establish a tax loss before the end of the financial year, with turnover swelling to 735.6 million shares.

Meanwhile, a strong overnight performance on the Hong Kong market helped **HSBC Holdings**, Midland Bank's parent, to climb 13p to 621p, while **Cable and Wireless**, which has substantial interests in the colony, added 2p to 727p. Oil and gas shares were also firmer, although *most* gains were eroded towards the close. **British Gas** added 4½p to 300p, **BP** 5½p to 304½p, **Enterprise** 8p to 510p, and **Shell** 1p to 573p. **Burmah**, due to report finals next week, rose 14p to 714p.



Inchcape, which reports full-year figures on Monday, added 14p to 601p. Final pretax profits are expected to rise to between £240 million and £250 million (£185 million).

Drugs groups continued to drift, with **Glaxo** reversing early gains to finish 3p lower at 597p, while **SmithKline Beecham A** firmed 3p to 407p. But Wellcome continued to look sorry for itself after Thursday's interim results and *concern about future earnings* growth prospects. The stock lost a further 24p to 794p, giving a two-day deficit of 96p.

The power generators continued to shine after the white paper on the coal industry and the decision by **PowerGen** to *bring forward its dividend to* beat the deadline for proposed Budget changes in tax legislation. *Shares finished below* their best, although PowerGen rose 3p to 345p, while **National Power** ended unchanged at 336p. Among the Scottish generators, **Scottish Hydro** advanced 7½p to *271½p, while* **Scottish Power** added 9½p to 254p.

Among the distributors, **London Electricity** firmed 2p to 485p, benefiting from Standard & Poor's AA+ rating for its £100 million eurobond issue.

Several shares in the stores sector were depressed as traders turned pessimistic on the likelihood of another cut in interest rates in the near term. **Boots** lost another 13p to 486p, affected by profit-taking, recent negative noises from NatWest Securities and concern about *intensifying* competition from the B&Q *DIY* operation of **Kingfisher**, up 5p at 555p.

Others in the sector were weak, *with* **Dixons** *down 8p to* 216p, **GUS A** 30p to £15.90, **Marks and Spencer** 8p to 339p and **WH Smith A** 8p lower at 402p. Meanwhile, food price inflation worries upset **Sainsbury**, 11p weaker at 483p.

Reports of a James Capel profit upgrading buoyed **Royal Bank of Scotland**, with the shares adding 10½p to 249p.

French reports of a Paris court ruling against TML helped **Eurotunnel** advance 11p to 490p. Shares in **HTV** *fell 8½p to 29½p after results* showing it had gone into the red and axed its dividend.

CarnaudMetalbox *tumbled* 225p to £24.88 as the CGIP consortium confirmed that it was in negotiations to acquire the 25.3 per cent stake from **MB-Caradon**. MB-Caradon eased 5p to 311p as dealers scaled down their expectations *for the proceeds of the sale*.

Atreus made a damp stock market debut. *Despite touching 28p at the open, shares in* the bathroom products company ended the day with a disappointing premium of only 1½p at 21½p, on volume of 9.4 million.

A profits warning sent shares in **Fenner** reeling by 22p to 65p, while **Lec Refrigeration** lost 8p to 268p as it cut its dividend after sliding into the red.

PHILIP PANGALOS

THE TIMES PORTFOLIO DEALING SERVICE

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

IBM's crash

"Insiders on the collapse of the IBM empire: "I keep asking myself what I would have done differently if I could go back a few years . . ."
"The culture of IBM was such that you really didn't want to bring bad news to the top of the agenda . . ."

Business Focus — The Sunday Times tomorrow

WALL STREET

Dow mixed in tight early trading

New York — Wall Street stocks were stuck in a narrow range in early trading, with relatively favourable news from Russia and a decent performance by some key blue chips balancing out weak bond prices. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 7.57 points to 3,453.75.

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares ended firmer in energetic trade, helped by bullishness for the new fiscal year starting next month. The Nikkei average was up 23.78 points to 18,788.7. *It had hit a 1993* intra-day high of 18,897.61, surpassing the previous high of 18,877.50 set on Thursday.

☐ **Hong Kong** — Shares closed up sharply on a late *rally prompted by comments* by a leading Chinese official that he hoped Hong Kong's *new airport could be built by* 1997, brokers said. The Hang Seng index ended 94.28 points higher at 6,341.25.

☐ **Singapore** — Share prices *closed higher on light buying* in selected stocks. The Straits *Times industrial* index rose 8.71 points to 1,660.76.

☐ **Sydney** — Shares rallied to *their highest close of the week*. The all-ordinaries index closed up 15.2 points, at 1,675.9.

☐ **Frankfurt** — Shares ended 2.2 per cent down on the week, but dealers said these losses could quickly be reversed next week provided President Yeltsin of Russia maintained his leadership. The Dax index ended 4.14 points higher at 1,661.29. *(Reuter)*

	Mar 26 midday	Mar 25 close
AMP Inc	60	60
AMR Corp	63	63
Abbott Labs	24	24
Aetna Life	47	47
Ahmanson (HF)	19	19
Air Prod & Chem	45	45
Albertson's	54	54
Alcan Alumnm	19	19
Alco Standard	44	45
Allied Signal	66	68
Alum Co of Am	68	68
Amax	18	18
Amerada Hess	51	51
Amer Brands	33	35
Amer Cyanamid	51	50
Amer El Power	36	36
Amer Express	27	28
Amer Genl Corp	31	31
Amer Home Pr	63	63
Amer Intl	125	124
Amer Stores	40	41
Amer T & T	57	57
Ameritech	76	76
Amoco	58	58
Anheuser-Busch	53	53
Apple Computer	53	54
Archer Daniels	26	26
Asda	8	8
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	34	34
Asarco	24	24
Ashland Oil	28	28
Atl Richfield	119	119
Auto Data Pro	52	52
Avery Dennison	28	28
Avon Products	60	60
Baker Hughes	23	23
Baltim Gas & El	25	25
Banc One	56	57
BankAmerica	50	50
Bank of NY	57	56
Bankers Tr NY	73	73
Barnett Banks	45	45
Bausch & Lomb	55	54
Baxter Intl	29	29
Becton Dickinsn	36	36
Bell Atlantic	54	54
BellSouth	55	55
Black & Decker	18	19
Block (H&R)	37	37
Boeing	35	35
Boise Cascade	25	26
Borden Inc	26	26
Bristol Myrs Sq	57	57
Browning Ferris	26	26
Burlington Nthn	49	49
CBS	209	207
CNA Financial	94	94
CPC Intl	45	45
CSX	68	69
Campbell Soup	44	43
Can Pacific	15	15
Cptl Cities ABC	528	527
Cpd Holdings	77	78
Carolina Pwr	32	32
Caterpillar	60	59
Central & SW	32	32
Champion Intl	30	30
Chase Manhat	34	35
Chemical Bk	40	40
Chevron Corp	80	81
Chrysler	39	39
Chubb Corp	95	94
Cigna Corp	61	62
Citicorp	29	29
Clorox	49	50
Coastal Corp	26	27
Coca Cola	42	42
Colgate-Palmolive	66	66
Columbia Gas	23	23
Commonw Ed	27	27
Compaq Comp	50	50
Comp Ass Intl	24	24
Conagra	27	27
Cons Edison	35	35
Cons Nat Gas	48	49
Cons Rail	59	58
Cooper Inds	53	52
Corning Inc	33	33
Crown Cork	38	38
Dana Corp	45	46
Dayton Hudson	80	79
Deere	53	53
Delta Air Lines	51	51
Deluxe Corp	42	43
Detroit Edison	34	34
Digital Equip	45	45
Dillard Dept St	42	42
Disney (Walt)	44	43
Dominion Res	43	43
Donelley (RR)	29	29
Dover Corp	49	49
Dow Chemicals	50	51
Dow Jones	32	32
Dresser	20	20
Duke Power	39	39
Dun & Bradstreet	59	59
Du Pont	48	48
Eastman Kodak	58	58
Eaton Corp	86	86

	Mar 26 midday	Mar 25 close
Emerson Elec	59	59
Engelhard Corp	43	42
Enron Corp	59	60
Entergy Corp	35	35
Ethyl Corp	22	22
Exxon	65	65
FMC Corp	48	49
FPL Group	37	37
Federal Express	57	56
Fed Nat Mtge	80	80
First Chicago	42	42
First Interstate	55	55
First Union Rty	11	11
Fleet Fînl Grp	35	36
Fluor Corp	42	42
Ford Motor	52	52
GTE Corp	36	36
Gannett	53	53
Gap Inc Del	32	32
Gen Cinema	35	35
Gen Dynamics	115	116
Gen Electric	90	90
Gen Mills	70	70
Gen Motors	38	38
Gen Reinsurance	119	117
Gen Signal	65	64
Genuine Parts	36	36
Georgia Pac	63	63
Gillette	59	60
Glaxo ADR	17	17
Goodrich (BF)	48	49
Goodyear Tire	75	75
Grace (WR)	39	39
Gt Atl Pac Tea	24	23
Great Wstn Fin	18	18
Halliburton	37	37
Heinz (HJ)	39	39
Hercules	75	75
Hershey Foods	53	53
Hewlett Packard	74	74
Hilton Hotels	48	47
Home Depot	63	63
Homestake	13	13
Honeywell	33	32
Household Intl	71	70
Houston Inds	47	47
Humana	7	7
ITT Corp	80	79
Illinois Tool	71	73
INCO	23	24
Ingersoll Rand	32	31
Inland Steel	23	23
Intel Corp	115	115
IBM	51	50
Intl Flav & Fr	111	111
Intl Paper	64	65
James River Va	19	19
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	40	41
K Mart	24	24
Kellogg	61	60
Kerr-McGee	48	48
Kimberly-Clark	55	54
Knight-Ridder	57	57
Lilly (Eli)	45	45
Limited Inc	23	22
LIN Brdcstng	82	82
Lincoln Nat	79	79
Litton	52	52
Liz Claiborne	36	36
Lockheed Corp	62	62
Louisiana Pac	71	72
MCI Commun	44	45
Marriott	26	26
Marsh & McLnn	93	94
Martin Marietta	72	73
Masco Corp	34	34
May Dept St	77	77
Maytag Corp	14	14
McCaw Cellular	37	37
McDonalds	53	52
McDonnell D	54	54
McGraw Hill	62	62
Mead Corp	43	43
Medtronic	69	70
Mellon Bk	60	59
Melville Corp	48	47
Merck Inc	34	35
Merrill Lynch	70	70
Minnesota Mine	109	109
Mobil Corp	69	69
Monsanto	57	57
Morgan (JP)	69	68
Motorola Inc	65	65
Natl Medical	9	8
Natl Semi	12	13
Natl Service Ind	25	24
Navistar Int	2	2
NBD Bancorp	35	35
NY Times A	31	31
Newmont Mng	43	43
Niag Mohawk	22	22
Nike B	76	78
NL Industries	5	5
Nordstrom	32	32
Norfolk Sthn	63	63
Nthn State Pwr	46	46
Norwest Corp	49	50
Nynex Corp	89	89
Occidental Pet	22	22
Ohio Edison	25	25

	Mar 26 midday	Mar 25 close
Oracle Systems	36	36
Oryx Energy Co	23	23
PNC Financial	34	34
PPG Industries	68	68
Paccar Inc	63	64
Pacificorp	18	18
Pac Enterprises	24	24
Pac Gas & Elect	34	34
Pac Telesis	49	49
Pall Corp	17	17
Panhandle East	23	23
Paramnt Comm	48	48
Parker Hannifin	33	33
Penney (JC)	87	89
Pennzoil	57	57
Pepsico	42	42
Pfizer	58	59
Phelps Dodge	51	51
Philadel Elec	29	30
Philip Morris	62	61
Phillips Pet	28	29
Pitney Bowes	42	42
Polaroid	28	28
Price Co	34	34
Primerica	46	46
Procter & Gmbl	49	50
Pub Serv E & G	33	33
Quaker Oats	66	66
Ralston Purina	50	50
Raychem Corp	39	40
Raytheon	57	56
Reebok Intl	35	36
Reynolds Metals	50	50
Roadway Srvcs	61	63
Rockwell Intl	29	29
Rohm & Haas	55	55
Royal Dutch	87	87
Rubbermaid	33	33
Safeco Corp	65	65
St Paul's Cos	79	78
Salomon Inc	38	38
Santa Fe S Pac	14	14
Sara Lee Corp	28	27
Scecorp	49	49
Schering Plough	56	57
Schlumberger	58	58
Scott Paper	37	37
Seagram	28	28
Sears Roebuck	53	52
Shell Trans	57	57
Sherwin Wlms	34	33
Skyline Corp	18	18
Snap-On-Tools	33	33
Southern Co	41	41
Stnwestern Bell	75	74
Sprint Corp	30	30
Stanley Works	45	45
Sun Company	25	26
Suntrust	45	46
Supervalu	30	30
Syntex Corp	18	18
Sysco Corp	25	26
TRW Inc	62	62
Tandem Comp	12	12
Tandy Corp	28	27
Telecom Corp	2	2
Teledyne	21	22
Temple Inland	47	48
Tenneco	45	46
Texaco	63	64
Texas Inst	59	59
Texas Utilities	44	44
Textron	45	45
Time Warner	33	33
Times-Mirror	34	34
Timken	29	29
Torchmark	60	60
Toys R Us	39	40
Transamerica	51	50
Travelers Corp	27	28
Tribune	55	55
Tyco Labs	45	45
UAL Corp	122	121
UST Inc	28	28
USX Marathon	19	20
Unilever NV	113	113
Union Camp	43	44
Union Carbide	17	17
Union Pacific	61	61
Unisys Corp	13	13
USAIR Group	18	18
USF&G Corp	16	16
US Life	38	38
US West	43	43
United Tech	47	48
Unocal Corp	29	29
Upjohn	28	28
VF Corp	53	53
Wal-Mart Stores	33	33
Warner-Lambert	68	67
Waste Mgmnt Inc	34	34
Wells Fargo	106	107
Westinghouse El	15	15
Weyerhaeuser	43	44
Whirlpool	51	51
Whitman	14	15
Winn Dixie	68	68
Woolworth	31	31
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	34	34
Xerox	83	82

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
HSBC	621p (+13p)
Eurotunnel Units	490p (+11p)
Burmah Castrol	714p (+14p)
Inchcape	601p (+14p)
More O'Ferrall	271p (+13p)
Laporte	656p (+16p)
Mountview	805p (+25p)
Celestion	152p (+15p)
FALLS:	
Redland	453p (-14p)
Wellcome	794p (-24p)
Liberty Life	926p (-11p)
CIA Group	272p (-12p)
Assoc Br Ports	386p (-16p)

Closing Prices Page 29

RECENT ISSUES

Anglo United Warrants	-½	...
Atreus (20)	21½	...
David Lloyd Leisure (150)	176	-5
Frgn & Col US Smler Co	103	...
Frgn & Col US Smler Wts	41	...
Intl Food Machinery (51)	79	-1
Motor World (210)	278	...
Pilot Invstmnt Trst (100)	96½	...
Pilot Invstmnt Wts	27	...
Schroder Split Fd (100)	103	-1
Schroder Split Fd Cap	20	...
Schroder Split 0 Div Pf	101½	-½
Wts & Value Inv Tst (25)	25½	...
Yorkshire Food (110)	125	-3

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS. 071 538 8800				
Series Mngd Fd	381.10	403.30	+ 0.80	...
Series Equity	483.20	511.40	+ 3.70	...
Series Prop Fd	385.30	407.80	- 0.10	...
Series Fixed Int	308.90	326.90	- 1.30	...
Series Money Fd	237.50	251.40	+ 0.20	...
Series Oseas Fd	273.10	289.00	- 1.80	...
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD. 0800 010575				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	17.00	17.90	+ 0.01	...
Bear	17.80	18.74	- 0.13	...
Owl	17.40	18.32	- 0.14	...
Bull	15.69	16.53	- 0.10	...
Stag	16.47	17.34	- 0.09	...
Gilt Edged	17.67	17.67	- 0.11	...
Deposit	15.02	15.02	- 0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	22.58	23.77	+ 0.02	...
Bear	23.50	24.74	- 0.18	...
Owl	22.85	24.06	- 0.19	...
Bull	19.50	20.53	- 0.15	...
Stag	19.73	20.77	- 0.13	...
Gilt Edged	21.54	21.54	- 0.12	...
Deposit	18.97	18.97	+ 0.01	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-way Fund	501.17	501.18	- 3.28	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	299.01	314.75	- 1.78	...
N Amer Equity	279.03	293.72	- 3.39	...
Far East Equity	335.77	353.45	- 1.74	...
Fixed	276.16	290.70	- 1.73	...
Cash Deposit	192.90	203.06	+ 0.16	...
Property	103.06	108.49	- 2.06	
Special Opp	308.63	324.88	- 1.13	...
Managed	263.39	277.26	- 1.80	...
Index-Linked Fd	194.09	193.78	- 0.92	
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	248.90	262.10	- 0.70	...
-do- Acc	435.10	461.20	- 1.30	...
Equity Fd Inc	154.80	163.00	- 0.90	
-do- Acc	195.60	205.90	- 1.30	...
Select...Fd	435.40	458.40	- 2.70	
Money Fd	353.40	372.10	+ 0.50	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	342.10	360.20	- 1.10	...
Equity Ser 4	192.30	202.50	- 0.90	...
Man Ser 4	578.10	608.60	- 0.80	...
Conv Ser 4	310.20	326.60	+ 0.40	...
Money Ser 4	309.90	326.30	+ 0.40	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	320.20	337.10	- 1.80	...
American Ser 4	478.00	503.20	- 2.00	...
High Inc Ser 4	583.90	614.70	- 3.50	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	197.70	208.20	- 1.40	...
Japan Ser 4	305.50	321.60	+ 6.80	...
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ. 0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1376.0	1448.3	-14.50	
European Fd Acc	299.50	315.20	- 1.70	
Fixed Int Acc	498.30	514.00	- 6.40	
Gtd Money Acc	316.20	332.80	+ 0.20	
Intl Managed Acc	510.90	537.70	- 1.00	
Intl Fxd Int Acc	314.30	330.80	- 2.40	
Japan Fund	243.70	256.40	+ 3.70	
N American Acc	300.40	316.10	- 3.20	
Prop Fd Acc	366.90	386.10	- 4.60	
Multiple Inv Acc	916.80	965.00	- 6.00	
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL. 0793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	352.50	371.10	- 0.30	
Equity Acc	1207.6	1271.2	- 9.90	
Property Acc	464.80	489.30	+ 0.40	
Far East Acc	238.10	250.70	+ 3.50	
Managed Capital	472.40	497.30	- 3.60	
-do- Acc	942.70	991.80	- 6.70	
Overseas Acc	820.31	863.40	-14.41	
Gilt Edged Acc	434.30	457.20	- 4.40	...
Amer Equity Acc	707.50	744.80	- 1.10	
Amer Man Acc	305.20	321.30	- 0.50	...
Amer Prop Acc	119.40	125.70	...	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. 0494 463463				
Reserve Ser 5	135.60	142.70	- 0.40	
Balced Ser 5	610.20	642.30	- 4.30	
Opportunity Ser 5	136.10	143.20	- 0.30	
UK Equities Ser 5	642.20	676.00	-14.80	
Higher Inc Ser 5	872.20	918.10	-11.00	
North Amer Ser 5	427.40	449.80	- 6.60	
Far East Ser 5	442.60	465.80	+10.20	
Europe Ser 5	296.00	311.50	- 1.90	
Intnl Ser 5	487.80	513.20	- 2.30	
Property Ser 5	466.70	491.20	+ 0.50	
Fixed Int Ser 5	385.70	406.00	- 3.50	
Ind-Lnkd Ser 55	172.10	181.10	- 0.60	
Gteed Dep Ser 5	279.80	294.50	+ 0.30	
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	725.20	763.40	- 4.60	
-do- Initial	509.30	536.20	- 3.30	
Gilt Edgd Acc	361.30	380.40	- 2.90	
-do- Initial	256.10	269.60	- 2.00	
International Acc	340.60	358.60	+ 0.60	
-do- Initial	239.80	252.50	+ 0.40	
Managed Acc	454.20	478.20	- 1.70	
-do- Initial	301.40	317.30	- 1.20	
Money Acc	275.60	290.20	+ 0.30	
Property Acc	254.20	267.60	+ 0.30	
-do- Initial	177.90	187.30	+ 0.30	
America Acc	266.80	280.90	+ 0.20	
Australia Acc	185.00	194.80	- 1.80	
Financial Acc	261.10	274.90	- 2.80	
500 Accum	382.70	402.90	- 0.40	
Japan Genl Acc	306.10	322.30	+ 6.70	
Income Acc	452.20	476.00	- 2.40	
Leisure Acc	190.60	201.10	- 0.30	
Special Sits Acc	191.90	202.10	- 0.90	
Unit Tech Acc	125.60	132.60	- 1.40	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	697.18	697.18	- 3.65	...
Income Fund	664.80	699.79	- 3.84	...
Extra Income	608.66	640.70	- 6.13	...
Worldwide Gth	426.64	449.10	- 7.63	...
Balanced Fund	581.79	612.42	- 4.57	...
Smllr Cos Recov	590.11	621.17	- 3.28	...
N Amer & Genl	352.05	370.58	-13.17	...
Pacific Basin	333.80	351.37	- 4.54	...
German Growth	195.73	206.04	- 4.89	...
Japan Growth	141.96	149.44	- 0.86	...
The UK Gth Fd	185.42	195.18	- 1.80	...
Contl Euro Gth	104.91	110.44	- 0.75	...
Property Fund	337.99	355.78	+ 0.39	...
Fixed Interest	289.59	304.84	- 1.70	...
Cash Fund	268.38	282.51	+ 0.22	...
Managed Inv	427.49	449.99	- 2.50	...
Nth Amer Recov	224.19	235.99	-14.12	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	386.96	407.33	- 4.69	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire. 0475 868000				
Measured Perf	136.40	144.30	- 1.00	...
Performance Plus	132.90	140.60	- 1.00	...
With Profit Perf	158.00	167.20	+ 0.70	...
UK Opportunity	156.60	165.70	- 1.30	...
Euro Opportunity	164.30	173.90	- 0.70	...
North Amer Opp	135.00	142.90	- 1.20	...
Far East Opp	143.20	151.50	- 1.40	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	152.10	160.10	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	149.10	157.80	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int	165.70	175.30	- 0.90	...
Cash	148.00	156.60	...	...
Overseas	154.20	163.20	- 1.30	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA. 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	£228.60	...	...	...
Managed	280.90	295.70	- 1.50	...
Property	193.40	203.70	+ 0.80	
Gilt & Fxd Int	220.30	231.90	- 3.10	...
Index-Linked	190.30	189.80	+ 1.60	
Equity	309.80	325.10	- 2.00	...
Cash	207.20	218.10	+ 0.10	...
CLife Euro Mgd	297.40	313.10	+ 1.50	...
CLife Intl Fd	305.90	322.10	+ 0.40	...
CANNON ASSURANCE 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£110.90	...	- 5.00	
Property Units	£25.18			
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£57.00	£60.32	- 1.51	
2nd Equity Acc	561.40	594.10	-12.40	
2nd High Inc Ac	534.40	565.50	-15.50	
2nd Property Acc	231.30	244.80		
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	166.80	176.50	- 2.60	
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	406.70	430.40	- 6.10	
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	195.30	206.70	- 3.00	
2nd Deposit Acc	266.40	281.90	- 0.20	
2nd Gilt Acc	272.90	288.80	- 4.40	
2nd Amer Acc	576.20	609.70	-19.70	
2nd Intl Mny Acc	250.90	265.50	+ 0.70	
2nd Index Acc	183.40	194.10	- 1.30	
2nd Far East Acc	359.60	380.50	+ 6.00	
2nd Global Acc	151.40	160.20	- 2.60	
2nd Euro Acc	131.40	139.00	- 2.00	
2nd Japan Acc	182.60	193.20	+ 5.50	
2nd Heritage Acc	68.60	72.60		
2nd Intl Cu Bd Acc	150.80	159.60	- 5.10	
2nd Cap Gth Acc	109.90	116.30	- 3.10	
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Scottry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	180.10	189.60	...	
Managed Fund	532.10	560.20	- 4.00	
Equity Fund	301.80	317.70	- 2.80	
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	243.60	256.50	- 0.70	
Ruby	135.00	142.20	- 0.60	
Emerald	133.10	140.20	- 1.10	
Equity	283.80	298.90	- 5.10	
Property	175.50	184.80	- 0.60	
Gilt & Fixed Int	190.50	200.60	- 3.50	
Indexed Secs	156.90	165.20	- 1.40	
Cash	176.90	186.30	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	200.70	211.30	- 3.80	...
Far East	233.20	245.50	+ 3.20	
International	190.30	200.40	- 0.90	
Special Sits	259.00	271.60	+ 2.10	
Intl Income	252.70	266.10	- 1.30	
American Inc	171.90	180.90	- 0.40	
European	241.40	254.40	- 1.40	
Japanese	124.50	131.10	+ 4.80	
SE Asia	259.00	272.70	- 3.20	
With Profits Rec	145.10	152.80	+ 0.20	
-do- Spec	145.10	152.80	+ 0.20	
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	267.20	281.50	- 1.20	
Equity	324.30	341.30	- 3.20	
Property	170.40	179.40	- 0.40	
Gilt & Fixed Int	226.40	238.40	- 3.80	
Index Linked	165.00	173.70	- 2.10	
Cash	230.40	242.60	+ 0.30	
Nth American	246.30	259.30	- 2.30	
Far East Acc	253.50	266.90	+ 7.50	
International Acc	239.60	252.20	- 0.50	
Special Sits	380.30	400.40	- 0.80	
European Flex	319.20	336.10	- 0.90	
COLONIAL MUTUAL 24 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD. 071 248 9861				
(Units)-Key	£205.50			
-do- Pacemaker	£200.11			
-do- Cash	194.36	204.50	+ 0.14	
-do- Equity	460.65	484.99	- 2.33	...
-do- Fxd Int	339.96	357.85	- 2.58	
-do- Managed	337.57	355.34	- 1.59	...
-do- Property	241.63	254.35	+ 9.40	
(Pens) Cash Cap	204.73	215.51	+ 0.07	
-do- Cash Inv	282.41	297.28	+ 0.29	
-do- Equity Cap	1250.0	1317.9	-17.93	
-do- Equity Inv	1727.1	1818.0	-23.50	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Fixed Cap	371.51	391.07	- 3.31	...
-do- Fixed Inv	512.47	539.45	- 4.20	...
-do- Index Cap	201.01	211.60	- 0.57	
-do- Index Inv	277.28	291.88	- 0.59	...
Mngd Cap	509.15	535.95	- 6.00	...
Mngd Inv	702.34	739.31	- 7.82	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	1596.64	...	- 6.82	...
Var Ann (5)	183.85	...	- 1.09	...
Prime Managed	344.80	363.00	- 2.60	...
Prime UK Equity	412.10	433.80	- 6.30	...
Prime Int Equity	256.40	269.90	+ 1.60	...
Prime Property	194.10	204.40	+ 0.20	...
Prime Fxd Int	225.70	238.50	- 2.10	...
Prime Index-Lnk	161.50	170.10	- 1.90	...
Prime Cash	194.20	204.50	+ 0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN. 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	997.20	1049.6	-14.30	...
Equity Fund	1427.5	1502.6	-23.50	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW. 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	520.20	547.50	- 3.20	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	339.70	357.50	- 4.50	
Life Equity Acc	708.30	745.50	- 5.40	...
Life Money Acc	286.80	301.20	- 0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	635.20	668.60	-12.30	...
Life Intl Acc	451.40	475.10	+ 1.10	...
Life High Inc Acc	670.70	706.00	- 8.50	...
Life Property Acc	215.70	227.00	+ 0.30	
Crown Brit Inv A	997.50	1095.1	...	
Brewin Equity	625.70	658.60	- 7.60	
DBS Managed	235.20	247.60	- 2.90	...
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	165.70	174.50	+ 0.10	
Blue Chip Fund	217.30	228.80	- 0.50	
-do- Series 2	139.00	146.40	- 0.30	
Adventurous Fd	179.90	189.40	- 1.70	
-do- Series 2	134.70	141.80	- 1.20	
Performance Fd	220.30	231.90	- 0.20	
-do- Series 2	142.00	149.50	- 0.10	
UK Pref Fxd Int	137.00	144.30	- 0.90	
UK Equity Fund	139.00	146.40	- 0.50	
Property Fund	103.30	108.80	+ 0.10	
Environmtl Opps	138.10	145.40	- 0.90	
Euro Fund	138.50	145.80	- 0.90	
North Amer Fd	178.70	188.20	- 1.10	
Oriental Ops	146.20	154.00	- 0.20	
Japanese Fund	106.70	112.40	+ 2.00	
Bd & West Life	112.40	118.40	+ 0.20	
Bd & West Pen	125.70	130.30	+ 0.10	
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	245.50	254.40	- 2.40	3.60
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH. 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	265.50	279.50	- 1.60	
UK Equity	355.20	374.00	- 2.70	
Stewardship	305.10	323.30	- 0.60	
Overseas Equity	234.60	247.00	- 0.20	...
North American	136.40	143.60	...	
Pacific Basin	122.70	128.80	- 0.20	
European	164.70	173.40	- 1.00	
Property	188.50	198.50	- 0.20	
Fixed Interest	207.10	218.00	- 2.60	
Index Linked	154.80	163.00	- 1.20	
Cash	188.50	198.50	+ 0.10	
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD 5th Floor, 8 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567				
GT Plan Far East	273.00	287.40	- 0.50	
GT Plan Wwide	403.70	425.00	- 1.30	
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	178.40	187.70	- 1.20	
Unitised Profit	119.50	126.20	- 2.50	
UK Equity	242.20	254.90	- 2.60	
Fixed Int	179.50	188.90	- 2.20	
Index-Linked	155.20	162.60	- 1.40	
Cash Deposit	165.90	174.50	+ 0.10	
Property	159.70	168.00	+ 0.40	
International	160.10	168.70	- 0.50	
American	149.20	156.40	- 0.60	
Japan	212.60	223.90	+ 2.50	
Japan Smllr Cos	202.40	213.00	+ 1.20	
European	154.80	162.90	- 0.30	
Pacific Fund	206.70	217.40	+ 2.30	
Conv Life	130.80	137.60	- 0.70	
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	628.50	663.50	- 2.90	
-do- Inv A	625.40	659.60	- 7.10	
UK Equity	367.50	390.40	- 4.20	
Gilt Plus	196.50	207.00	- 2.10	
Managed	273.30	288.20	- 1.30	
Inter Man	240.10	254.90	- 1.30	
GRESHAM UNIT 2-6 Prince of Wales Road, Bournemouth. 0202 752000				
Managed Fund	639.40	673.00	+ 2.60	
Money Fund	299.40	315.00	+ 0.30	
Equity Fund	860.00	905.10	+ 8.30	
Fixed Interest	251.00	275.60	- 2.80	...
Property Fund	328.80	346.20		
Gresham Framlington:				
American & Gen	497.60	523.70	- 5.00	
Income	646.80	681.00	- 2.10	
International Gth	521.70	549.70	- 2.40	...
Capital Fund	562.10	592.00	- 3.20	
Recovery Fund	548.50	581.00	- 3.00	
Japan & General	223.20	247.80	+ 3.50	
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange, London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Art Prop Bds	635.40	661.70		
Managed Initial	408.30	429.50	- 2.50	
-do- Acc	560.50	590.00	- 3.70	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Initial	597.30	628.70	-10.40	...
-do- Acc	819.90	863.00	-13.90	...
Fixed Int Initial	409.10	430.60	- 6.20	...
-do- Acc	561.50	591.10	- 8.20	...
Intl Initial	402.00	423.20	- 4.80	...
-do- Acc	551.80	580.90	- 6.40	...
Nth Amer Initial	178.00	187.40	- 0.30	...
-do- Acc	222.40	234.10	- 0.30	...
Pacific Initial	200.40	210.90	- 0.40	...
-do- Acc	248.00	261.00	- 0.30	...
Property Initial	150.00	157.80	...	...
-do- Acc	205.50	216.30	...	...
Index-Lnkd Intl	154.40	162.50	- 1.40	...
-do- Acc	192.90	203.00	- 1.60	...
Deposit Initial	192.70	202.80	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	264.50	278.40	+ 0.30	...
Euro Initial	82.50	86.80	...	...
-do- Acc	95.20	100.20	...	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	144.20	151.70	- 0.90	...
-do- Pens	170.40	179.30	- 1.40	...
UK Equity	140.40	147.70	- 0.50	...
-do- Pens	153.10	161.10	- 0.80	...
International	126.80	133.40	- 2.10	...
-do- Pens	136.20	143.30	- 2.70	...
Deposit	133.00	140.00	...	...
-do- Pens	154.20	162.30	+ 0.10	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA. 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	345.10	367.20	- 3.10	...
North America	319.90	340.40	- 5.20	...
Far East Fund	463.70	493.40	+ 0.70	...
Global Managed	395.30	420.60	- 1.70	...
Deposit Fund	217.00	228.50	+ 0.10	...
Prime Residential	125.20	131.80	...	...
European Fund	213.70	227.40	- 1.90	...
Fixed Interest	69.80	74.30	- 0.60	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	447.00	473.10	- 3.40	..
British Fund	454.60	480.90	- 4.30	..
International	448.50	474.70	- 0.30	..
Dollar Fund	339.80	359.60	- 0.30	..
Capital Fund	411.00	435.00	- 2.50	..
Income Fund	603.00	638.10	- 5.80	..
Property Series A	379.20	401.30		
Property Units	615.60	644.30	..	..
Financial Fund	434.80	461.30	- 7.20	..
Managed Ser A	474.40	502.10	- 2.90	..
-do- C	274.30	290.30	- 1.90	..
Managed Units	846.60	891.20	- 5.20	..
High Yield Fund	564.90	597.80	- 6.40	..
Money Series A	272.40	288.30	+ 0.20	..
Money Units	358.60	377.50	+ 0.30	..
Equity Fund	540.90	572.40	- 3.50	..
Fixed Interest	343.60	363.60	- 4.20	..
Indexed Secs	171.30	181.30	- 1.90	..
European Fund	608.40	643.90	+ 1.30	..
Natural Res	239.80	253.80	+ 3.40	..
Far East Fund	498.20	527.20	+ 8.10	..
Smaller Cos	393.70	416.70	- 1.20	..
Special Sits	386.90	409.50	- 3.80	..
Man Currency	250.30	264.90	- 0.20	..
Japanese Tech	222.90	235.80	+10.50	..
US Smaller Cos	191.70	202.90	- 3.40	
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF 0727 48181				
Global Managed	490.20	516.50	- 4.40	...
Global Property	260.20	273.90		
Global Fixed Int	469.50	493.20	- 4.70	
Global Equity	510.20	537.20	- 5.80	
Global Cash	201.60	212.20	+ 0.10	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ. 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	443.70	467.10	- 1.40	..
Property	409.10	430.60	- 1.80	..
Managed	365.60	384.80	- 5.30	..
American	373.40	393.60	- 0.70	..
UK Equity Fd	401.90	423.00	- 8.10	..
Japan	177.10	186.40	+ 3.10	..
Index-Lnkd	176.60	185.90	- 1.40	..
High Yield	740.90	779.90	- 6.90	..
Growth Cap	401.00	422.10	- 1.40	..
Money	380.20	400.20	+ 0.10	..
International	331.00	348.40	- 0.60	..
Henderson Active	186.00	195.80	- 2.60	
Perpetual Active	270.90	284.80	- 1.50	
Growth Cap	401.00	422.10	- 1.40	..
-do- Acc	566.30	598.20	- 6.30	..
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE. 0273 724000				
B Sec Lnkd Ini	134.90	142.10	+ 0.20	
-do- Acc	176.30	185.60	+ 0.10	
Bri Crps Ini	125.10	131.70	- 1.50	
-do- Acc	147.40	155.20	- 1.70	
Cash Initial	166.70	175.50	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	232.50	256.60	+ 0.30	..
Equity Initial	583.50	614.60	- 3.80	..
-do- Acc	953.40	1003.6	- 9.60	...
Fixed Initial	379.80	397.70	- 2.90	..
-do- Acc	554.30	584.20	- 4.50	..
Index-Lnkd Gilt	132.10	139.10	- 1.20	..
-do- Acc	184.10	193.80	- 1.70	..
Intl Initial	302.30	318.30	+ 0.70	..
-do- Acc	486.10	511.70	- 1.00	..
Managed Initial	428.50	451.10	- 2.50	..
-do- Acc	697.10	736.70	- 4.20	..
Property Initial	182.70	192.40	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	298.40	314.20	- 1.20	..
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND 113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5000				
Managed Fund	315.00	329.50	- 0.40	
UK Equity	521.30	550.90	- 1.30	..
Property	272.80	287.90		
Money Market	239.40	252.00	- 0.20	..
Fixed Interest	292.90	308.40	- 4.40	..
Japan	334.50	352.20	+ 5.90	..
North America	157.40	165.70	- 0.70	..
International	258.40	271.10	+ 0.60	..

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	231.80	244.00	- 1.60	...
Far East	108.00	113.70	+ 1.70	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA. 0272 279179				
Equity	£794.50	...	- 4.30	...
Fixed Interest	£374.40	...	- 3.40	...
Property	£338.20	...	+ 0.90	...
Deposit	£275.20	...	+ 0.10	...
Mixed	£517.90	...	- 1.80	...
Indexed Stock	£199.90	...	+ 0.10	...
International	£247.50	...		
Equity A	£384.90	...	- 1.00	...
Fixed Int A	£166.80	...	- 1.50	...
Property A	£149.10	...	+ 0.40	...
Deposit A	£162.20	...	...	...
Mixed A	£170.70	...	- 0.60	...
Index Stock A	£156.90	...		
International A	£155.10	...		
Equity P	£641.10	...	- 3.40	...
Fixed Int P	£480.50	...	- 4.30	...
Property P	£271.30	...	+ 0.20	...
Deposit P	£317.90	...	+ 0.40	...
Mixed P	£466.10	...	- 1.60	...
Index Stock P	£228.80	...	- 0.20	...
International P	£279.00	...	+ 0.10	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 283456				
Inv Trust Cap	£307.30	...	- 9.30	...
-do- Acc	£786.90	...	-13.80	...
Property Cap	£156.50	...	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	£235.60	...	- 0.20	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£195.30	...	- 2.00	...
-do- Acc	£294.20	...	- 2.80	...
Equity Cap	£296.80	...	- 2.00	...
-do- Acc	£451.50	...	- 2.80	...
Internatl Cap	£214.40	...	- 2.20	...
-do- Acc	£323.50	...	- 3.00	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£170.90	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£255.20	...	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Cap	£324.70	...	- 2.40	...
-do- Acc	£493.40	...	- 3.30	...
Moneymaker Fd	£390.70	...	- 2.50	...
Capital Growth	£1428.5	...	- 8.90	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB. 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	392.50	412.10	+ 0.50	...
Amer Rec Bond	442.80	465.10	+ 2.20	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	205.90	216.20	+ 2.50	...
Australasia Bd	169.10	177.70	- 0.30	...
Commodity Bond	223.50	234.70	+ 7.40	...
Deposit Bond Acc	342.90	360.10	+ 0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1208.4	1268.9	- 5.40	...
European Bd Acc	292.30	307.00	- 2.90	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	599.20	629.20	- 4.60	...
Far East Bd Acc	242.50	254.80	+ 4.00	...
Gilt Bond Acc	402.10	422.30	- 4.80	...
Gold Bond Acc	97.20	102.20	+ 5.30	...
High Yield Bond	297.50	312.50	- 6.30	4.80
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	198.80	208.80	- 1.30	...
International Bd	624.80	655.90	+ 0.90	...
Japan Bond Acc	241.10	253.20	+ 4.60	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	205.40	215.70	+ 3.50	...
Managed Bonds	735.30	772.60	- 3.40	...
Prop Bond Acc	295.80	310.70	- 0.40	...
Rec Bond Acc	624.40	656.10	- 9.80	...
MGM ASSURANCE *MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631*				
UK Equity	206.30	217.20	- 1.10	...
UK Equity Acc	274.20	288.70	- 1.20	...
Special Sits	85.60	90.20	- 0.40	...
Special Sits Acc	113.90	119.90	- 0.50	...
North American	180.20	189.70	...	
N American Acc	239.60	252.20	+ 0.10	
Pacific Basin	301.40	317.30	+ 3.40	
Pacific Basin Acc	400.70	421.80	- 4.60	
Fixed Interest	279.00	293.70	- 3.60	
Fixed Interest Acc	371.40	391.00	- 4.40	
Property	153.10	161.20	...	
Property Acc	203.80	214.60	+ 0.20	
Deposit	150.40	158.40	+ 0.10	
Deposit Acc	200.80	211.40	+ 0.40	
Managed	235.00	247.40	- 0.80	
Managed Acc	287.90	303.10	- 0.80	
MANULIFE GROUP St George's Way, Stevenage, Herts. 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	615.60	648.00	- 7.20	...
Property Fund	471.50	496.30	- 1.40	...
Equity Fund	764.30	804.70	-12.30	...
Gilt Edged Fd	557.90	586.50	- 8.90	...
Deposit Fund	312.30	328.90	- 0.20	...
Investment Fd	323.90	339.60	- 4.70	...
International	489.40	515.20	- 1.60	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS 91 Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DA. Admin 0272 264366 Prices 081 789 2965 or 0272 752197				
Property	392.00	413.50	+ 0.50	...
Equity Bond	302.50	318.30	- 3.80	
Money Mkt Bd	495.40	522.00	+ 9.50	...
Deposit Fund	357.30	376.10	+ 0.40	...
Managed Fund	414.50	436.30	+ 1.30	...
Intl Equity	476.70	501.70	- 1.80	...
Intl Managed	453.70	477.50	- 3.10	...
North American	198.10	208.50	- 1.60	...
Far East	348.40	366.70	+ 1.90	...
Intl Currency	254.80	268.20	...	...
NM LIFE ASSURANCE Enterprise House, Portsmouth. 0705 827733				
Equity	129.40	136.20	- 0.70	..
Fixed Interest	491.30	517.10	- 3.30	..
Managed	621.50	654.20	- 3.60	..
Deposit	320.00	336.80	+ 0.20	..
Property	371.40	390.90	- 1.40	..
American	398.50	419.40	- 9.10	..
Australian	435.70	458.20	-10.40	..
European	452.80	476.30	- 6.30	..
Gilt & Fixed Inv	249.70	258.60	- 0.60	..
Global Managed	126.00	132.60	- 0.70	..
Income Acc	685.13	721.10	- 2.00	..
-do- Dist	436.10	459.10	- 1.70	5.49
International	278.60	293.20	- 4.50	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Smaller	406.50	427.80	+ 0.40	...
Singapore & Mal	249.30	262.40	- 4.00	...
Smaller Cos	344.50	362.60	- 0.20	...
Tokyo Fund	578.70	609.10	- 2.50	...
UK Equity	529.20	557.00	- 3.10	...
CCM Vangd Mg	650.60	684.80	- 4.30	...
Equity Pens Cap	867.30	912.90	- 7.20	...
NATIONAL PROVIDENT *48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH.* 071 623 4200				
Managed	420.10	442.30	- 3.80	...
UK Equity	519.90	547.30	- 8.00	...
Overseas Equity	417.60	439.50	- 0.40	...
Americas	391.50	412.20	- 3.00	...
Far East	430.60	453.30	+ 8.90	...
Property	194.40	204.70	- 0.70	...
Fixed Interest	338.90	356.80	- 2.00	...
Indexed Gilt	215.00	226.40	- 1.50	...
Deposit	204.30	215.10	+ 0.10	...
NORWICH UNION ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP. 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	1205.0	1268.4	-10.90	...
Eqty Fund	2637.3	2776.1	-36.10	...
Property Fd	434.60	457.50	- 0.10	...
Fixed Int Fd	552.10	581.20	- 6.50	...
Deposit Fund	326.70	343.90	+ 0.30	...
Intl Fund	201.90	212.50	- 0.10	...
PEARL ASSURANCE Pearl House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SA. 0733 63212				
Inv Prop Dist	138.30	145.60	+ 0.50	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	261.40	277.30	- 1.00	...
Inv Equity	1046.7	1101.8	- 6.40	...
Inv Managed	725.70	763.90	- 4.10	...
Rec Managed	794.80	836.70	- 5.10	...
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS LTD Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UB. 0539 733733				
Bal Gwth Mngd	681.50	725.10	- 5.70	...
Cash Fund	319.30	336.50	+ 0.30	...
Property Fund	217.10	231.00	...	
Equity Fund	781.20	821.10	- 6.40	...
Fxd Interest Fund	422.00	445.70	- 1.80	...
International	348.30	370.60	- 2.40	...
High Income	614.70	654.00	- 6.40	...
Far East	458.80	488.10	- 5.90	...
North American	471.60	503.50	- 2.10	...
Special Sits	551.30	588.70	- 6.20	...
Technology	452.20	481.10	-10.40	...
Extra Income Fd	331.60	352.80	- 1.60	...
Gilt Fund	451.20	480.00	- 2.30	...
European	126.40	134.50	- 0.20	...
Adventurous Mg	177.20	186.60	- 1.80	...
Secure Mgd	129.50	137.80	- 0.90	...
Equity Inc Dist	109.60	116.70	- 1.50	5.08
North American	103.80	110.50	- 0.70	5.77
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA. 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	265.20	279.80	- 3.30	...
Fxd Interest Acc	222.30	234.30	- 4.00	...
International Acc	222.00	234.20	- 1.00	...
Managed Acc	193.60	204.20	- 0.40	...
Property Acc	222.40	234.60	+ 2.80	...
Money Acc	145.50	153.50	+ 0.20	...
Spec Mkt Acc	185.80	195.80	- 3.40	...
Japan Equity Acc	104.00	109.80	- 0.90	...
N Amer Acc	153.00	161.40	+ 0.70	...
Pacific Acc	129.50	136.70	- 0.20	...
European Acc	119.40	126.00	- 1.10	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP. 0438 734000				
Managed Ord	407.00	428.40	- 5.40	...
Managed Initial	290.00	305.30	- 4.00	...
Equity Ord	613.40	645.70	-13.00	...
Equity Init	437.10	460.10	- 9.60	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	193.70	203.90	- 1.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	144.10	151.70	- 1.10	...
Oseas Equity Ord	316.80	333.50	- 0.60	...
Oseas Equity Init	225.70	237.60	- 0.60	...
Property Ord	222.90	234.60	+ 0.20	...
Property Init	158.80	167.20		
Fixed Int Ord	259.30	272.90	- 2.80	...
Fixed Int Init	184.70	194.40	- 2.10	...
Deposit Ord	195.00	205.30	+ 0.10	...
Deposit Initial	138.90	146.20		
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH. 071 405 9222				
Managed	295.80	308.20	- 2.50	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP. 071 548 3276				
Managed Fund	655.70	690.30	- 4.00	...
Equity Fund	1293.0	1362.1	-16.80	...
Intl Fund	501.20	527.60	+ 7.00	...
Fixed Interest	532.40	560.50	- 4.50	...
Property Fund	376.60	396.50	...	
Cash Fund	246.40	260.70	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	260.20	273.90	+ 6.00	...
N American Fd	214.40	225.70	...	
Euro Fund	219.20	230.80	- 0.60	...
Balanced Fund	132.20	139.20	- 0.70	...
Strategic Fund	135.10	142.20	- 0.20	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	1642.40			
-do- Acc	415.60	437.60		
Op Prop	411.70	433.40		
Op Equity	883.50	930.00	- 8.40	...
Op High Yield	523.70	551.30	- 5.70	...
Op Managed	722.80	760.20	-11.00	...
Op Deposit	372.10	391.70		
Amer Smaller	...	...	...	...
Extra Inc	...	...	...	...
Gold Gen	...	...	...	...
Inc Gth	278.30	290.90	- 2.40	...
Japan Perf	...	...	...	...
Japan Smlr	201.40	212.00	+ 9.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Natl High	...	...	...	...
Prop Sits	...	...	...	...
Managed Gth	223.70	235.50	- 1.20	...
Gilt	79.60	83.20	+ 0.10	...
Amer (34.34)	...	...	...	...
British	316.60	333.30	- 5.30	...
Global Bond	113.90	119.90	- 0.40	...
Global (35.34)	158.50	164.80	- 0.40	...
Gold Share	56.30	59.30	+ 1.70	...
High Income	257.60	271.20	- 8.00	...
Income	376.70	396.60	- 0.40	...
Japan	341.60	359.60	+10.90	...
UK Smlr Cos	270.70	285.00	- 0.10	...
Magd Growth	394.80	415.60	- 3.60	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS. 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	851.60	900.60	- 3.70	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	341.00	358.90	- 1.40	...
Equity Fund	463.10	487.40	-16.90	...
Property Fund	247.00	260.00	...	...
International	391.30	411.80	+ 1.80	...
Pacific Basin	216.80	228.20	- 2.80	...
United States	214.30	225.50	- 1.60	...
Gilt Fund	328.80	346.10	- 3.20	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	653.40	691.50	- 1.40	...
Deposit Fund (2)	347.50	367.80	+ 0.30	...
Gilt Fund	472.30	499.80	- 3.40	...
Global Equity Fd	195.80	206.90	+ 0.30	...
Property Fund (46)	89.20	94.40		
AG Bond Fund	137.40	145.40	- 1.30	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow. 041 248 2323				
Equity	492.90	518.90	- 5.60	...
Fixed Interest	332.50	350.00	- 3.60	...
Index-Linked	184.80	194.60	- 2.20	...
International	371.00	390.80	+ 0.50	...
Property	239.40	252.00	...	...
Cash	218.30	229.80	+ 0.20	...
Managed	390.60	411.20	- 3.20	...
Cap Gteed Bd	98.30	103.50	- 1.40	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF. 031 556 9101				
Cash	171.11	180.12	+ 0.14	...
Index-Linked	150.50	158.40	- 1.40	...
Fixed Interest	169.30	178.60	- 1.50	...
Mixed	217.80	229.30	- 0.40	...
UK Equity	212.80	224.00	- 2.50	...
International	214.80	226.10	+ 1.40	...
American	234.20	246.50	+ 0.80	...
Japan	213.60	224.90	+ 5.60	...
European	208.10	219.10	- 0.10	...
Pacific	285.60	300.70	+ 2.40	...
Technology	284.70	299.70	+ 0.50	...
Currncy/Currncy	217.20	228.60	- 0.30	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE. 031 225 2211				
Property	173.20	182.40	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	313.40	330.00	- 4.80	...
American	235.70	248.20	+ 2.10	...
Pacific	279.80	294.70	+ 4.40	...
European	401.40	422.70	- 0.50	...
International	368.80	380.00	- 0.90	...
Fixed Interest	225.20	237.20	- 1.60	...
Index Linked	188.00	198.00	- 2.00	...
Deposit	182.80	192.50	+ 0.10	...
Managed	249.95	263.10	- 1.90	...
Worldwide	105.90	111.50	- 0.40	...
Pen Worldwide	109.90	115.80	- 0.40	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	1457.5	1503.9	...	...
Safety Fund	212.60	224.00	- 2.00	...
Growth Fund	202.80	213.50	- 1.60	...
Opportunity Fd	202.10	212.80	- 1.10	...
Cash Fund	165.20	173.90	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	293.30	308.80	+ 3.30	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	180.70	190.20	- 1.90	...
Index-Linked Fd	171.20	180.20	- 1.60	...
International Fd	250.40	263.60	+ 4.40	...
North American	226.60	238.50	+ 5.10	...
Property Fund	115.10	121.20	+ 1.30	...
UK Equity	216.70	228.20	- 4.20	...
UK Smaller	180.20	190.10	- 3.10	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 556 9181				
Mixed	230.90	243.20	- 0.70	...
Equity	244.80	257.80	- 1.60	...
International	237.80	250.40	- 1.20	...
Property	193.10	203.40	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	210.00	221.10	- 1.40	...
Index Linked	171.00	180.10	- 1.70	...
Cash	177.90	187.30	+ 0.10	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU. 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	833.30	833.30	- 1.40	...
Inv Pol 2	780.40	800.50	- 5.50	...
Inv Pol 3	722.70	771.40	- 5.00	...
Inv Cash	295.30	310.90	+ 0.30	...
Mixed Fund	399.50	420.70	- 1.50	...
Equity Fund	471.20	496.60	- 5.90	...
Property Fund	203.30	214.30	+ 0.30	...
International Fd	410.70	432.40	+ 4.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	343.20	361.40	- 1.10	...
Indexed Stock Fd	187.30	197.20	- 1.80	...
Cash Fund	215.10	226.50	+ 0.10	...
SKANDIA LIFE *Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BL.* 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	320.60	337.40	- 3.30	...
Equity Acc	366.80	386.20	- 5.00	...
International Acc	296.50	312.50	- 1.70	...
Property	209.80	220.80	- 1.10	...
Royal Trust Mg	209.30	220.30	- 2.40	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 031 225 2552				
Cash	254.60	268.10	+ 0.10	...
Equity	880.80	927.20	-11.90	...
European	139.10	146.50	- 0.50	...
Far East	137.10	144.40	+ 1.90	...
Fixed Interest	365.40	384.70	- 3.90	...
Index Linked	195.70	206.10	- 1.50	...
International	522.50	550.00	+ 2.50	...
Managed	612.80	645.10	- 4.90	...
Nth American	142.50	150.00	...	
Property	304.10	320.20	+ 0.60	...
Pensions				
Cash	389.60	410.20	+ 0.30	...
Equity	1233.1	1298.1	-19.30	...
European	164.10	172.80	- 0.60	...
Far East	105.00	110.60	+ 2.10	...
Fixed Interest	485.40	511.00	- 5.50	...
Index Linked	270.50	284.80	- 2.10	...
International	718.20	756.10	+ 5.50	...
Managed	836.70	880.80	- 7.50	...
Nth American	176.90	186.30	+ 0.20	...
Property	384.50	404.80	+ 1.10	...
Stock Exchange	189.00	199.00	- 1.80	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex. 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	566.10	595.90	- 4.80	...
Equity Fund	760.80	800.90	- 8.50	...
Fixed Interest Fd	387.90	408.40	- 4.60	...
Index-Linked Fd	289.80	305.10	- 2.60	...
Property Fund	408.60	430.20	+ 0.70	...
International Fd	540.90	569.40	- 3.90	...
N American Fd	211.90	223.10	+ 0.60	...
Far East Fund	174.90	184.20	+ 3.50	...
Deposit Fund	278.30	293.00	+ 0.30	...
International Bd	£72.36	...	- 0.92	...
Worldwide Bond	157.00	165.30	+ 0.20	...
Worldwide Fincl	78.30	82.50	...	...
Worldwide Tech	93.00	97.90	...	...
European	133.60	140.70	+ 0.30	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	555.80	585.10	- 5.40	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	382.60	409.10	- 2.40	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£466.30	...	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	£437.40	...	+ 0.70	...
Agricultural Fd	£751.80	...	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc	£722.40	...	+ 0.60	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£375.40	...	+ 0.50	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£398.90	...	+ 0.50	...
Investment Fd	£290.00	...	- 2.30	...
Investment (A)	£287.70	...	- 2.30	...
Equity	£1097.8	...	-11.60	...
Equity Acc	£1055.2	...	-11.20	...
Money Fund	£440.20	...	+ 0.40	...
-do- Acc	£422.40	...	+ 0.40	...
Actuarial Fd	£612.30	...	- 4.40	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£361.60	...	- 4.00	...
-do- Acc	£361.60	...	- 4.00	...
Retire Annuity	£957.40	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£293.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£213.70	...	+ 0.20	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£1253.4	...	+ 1.40	...
Managed Acc	£740.20	...	- 4.60	...
Equity Account	£1049.5	...	- 6.40	...
Mngd Fund Acc	343.60	361.70	- 2.30	...
Equity Fund Acc	463.00	487.40	- 3.00	...
Prop Fund Acc	221.90	233.60	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	285.30	300.30	+ 2.20	...
Money Fund Acc	209.40	220.40	...	
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	199.10	209.60	+ 3.10	...
Pers Pens Acct	£1611.1	...	-15.10	...
Pens Mngd Acct	749.20	788.60	- 7.40	...
Pens Guarantee	218.20	229.70	+ 0.40	...
Pens Equity	287.60	302.70	- 3.30	...
Pens Property	229.00	241.00	+ 0.30	...
Pens Fixed Int	250.00	263.20	- 1.90	...
Pens Intl	204.80	215.60	- 3.30	...
Pens Money	219.90	231.50	+ 0.10	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	185.70	195.50	+ 2.00	...
SUN LIFE UNIT *St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL.* 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	769.20	809.70	- 5.30	...
Property Acc	278.10	292.80	- 0.30	...
Equity Acc	1261.8	1328.3	-10.50	...
Fixed Int Acc	357.20	376.10	- 4.80	...
Index-Linked Acc	193.60	203.80	- 2.40	...
Cash Acc	291.50	306.90	+ 0.30	...
Amer Equity Acc	342.50	360.60	- 1.00	...
Japan Acc	261.70	275.50	+ 3.90	...
Pacific Acc	274.50	289.00	+ 0.60	...
Far Eastern Acc	641.70	675.50	- 5.60	...
International Acc	473.80	498.80	- 6.10	...
Distribution Fund	271.70	286.00	- 1.80	6.99
European	148.60	156.50	- 0.40	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	249.70	262.90	- 1.90	...
Property Fund	178.60	188.10	+ 0.70	...
Fixed Interest Fd	207.50	218.50	- 2.20	...
Money Fund	189.00	199.00	+ 0.20	...
Equity Fund	324.30	341.40	- 2.70	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
TSB Brit Gwth	700.00	746.40	-13.20	...
TSB American	188.30	198.20	- 1.20	...
Australian	...	...	...	...
Deposit	237.20	249.80	+ 0.10	...
Residential Prop	90.70	95.50	- 0.10	...
Financial Ser 1	39.20	42.00	- 0.70	...
Fixed Interest	314.30	330.90	- 1.40	...
Gold	69.20	72.60	+ 1.80	...
TSB Income	341.40	359.40	- 4.30	...
TSB Intl	368.20	387.60	- 1.30	...
TSB Pacific	308.20	324.50	- 1.90	...
Managed	526.80	555.10	- 2.70	...
Managed Prop	204.30	215.10	- 7.00	...
TSB Pens Inc	235.90	248.50	- 1.50	...
Property	253.30	266.70	+ 1.20	...
TSB Intl Inc	273.40	288.10	- 3.20	...
TSB European	228.00	241.00	+ 0.30	...

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Little action over many dramas



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

Insurers are not supposed to make a drama out of a crisis, but their delays and convolutions in making payments can drive claimants to distraction. All manner of claims appear to sit in in-trays for ever, while policyholders pay out large sums they expected insurance companies to produce.

A young couple whose car was written off last summer are still, eight months later, waiting for the insurance company to pay up. They told the insurer — not their own company, as six independent witnesses and the other driver said he was to blame — that they needed a car to get to work. That has cut no ice. The couple had to get a bank overdraft to buy a car. The bank is now seeking repayment.

A woman whose husband had a heart attack and died while smoking, setting fire to a chair, had to wait months for the insurance company even to inspect the smoke damage so that repairs could be started. Every time she entered the house, she was reminded of his death.

A homeowner with a claim for subsidence has a builder wanting a stage payment for work already completed. The insurance company agreed to make one. Two weeks later, however, the policyholder had no cheque and had to dig into his savings for £2,000 to keep the builder working. The insurer sent the cheque to the building society that had provided the mortgage to buy the home. The society acknowledged it had the cheque, somewhere in its system, but still the customer waits.

Insurance policies do not usually compensate customers for interest lost on savings or interest charged on loans taken out while they wait for payment. Meanwhile premiums rise and policyholders perceive they are getting a far worse service now than before. They also notice that insurers are beginning to report profits on their general business. They might well wonder whether these have been helped by tardy payouts.

The Association of British Insurers, which is running a campaign to improve the image of insurance companies, might do well to suggest that paying out promptly would help.

In the good old days customers would tell of a claim made one day and the cheque arriving within a week. Floods and hurricanes gave insurers an opportunity to show the benefits of an insurance policy by setting up emergency offices in centres of devastation to handle claims. What better publicity could an industry want?

Unfortunately claims increased and the industry appears to have battened down the hatches in the belief that this must mean that fraudulent claims are on the increase. The ABI says that ideally claims should be met in weeks rather than months, but that it all depends on individual cases. If interest were paid after a delay of say six weeks, it might concentrate the minds of the companies. Of course, there is always the danger that those that have been prompt will reorganise to make payments after five weeks and six days.

Setback

The 1992/1993 tax year ends on April 5 and conscientious investors are being bombarded with mail-shots and advice from insurance companies and fund managers, telling them to make the best of unused tax relief.

But some companies are making it impossible for people to claim all the relief they could. One Weekend Money reader has been putting £100 net a month into a Scottish Widows personal pension for the last two years but has since seen her part time earnings fall to an average of £300 a month, pushing her over her Inland Revenue limit for pension contributions. She therefore opted to set the excess contributions against tax relief unused over the previous six years so that she could keep up her contributions without breaking the rules. This facility, called "carry forward" is offered by the Inland Revenue, so that people can put the maximum possible into their pensions.

Life companies could be expected to encourage this enthusiasm for planning for a secure retirement. After all, they are always bemoaning the fact that most Britons do not contribute nearly enough to their personal pensions. But Scottish Widows says that it has recently changed its policy and will not operate a carry forward facility for contributions of less than £200 a month because of the volume of work and administrative costs involved. Several other companies operate similar restrictions, it said.

It should not be up to life companies to set these arbitrary and unreasonable restrictions. Instead they should encourage people to save responsibly. If their administration costs are high, they should concentrate on cutting them, not disadvantaging policyholders.

Revenue to act on £30m excess Miras claims

Married couples still claiming double relief may face large bills, says Sara McConnell

DENZIL McNEELANCE



House sale shock: Andy and Sophie Bainbridge with their file of Halifax paperwork

BORROWERS found to be claiming too much tax relief on mortgage interest payments could face increased pressure from lenders to pay it back. In some cases, this could mean demands for several thousands of pounds, though excessive claims are often due to lenders' mistakes.

Under the Miras (mortgage interest relief at source) scheme introduced in 1983, lenders are responsible for calculating borrowers' monthly repayments, including tax relief they are due. Each lender then makes a claim to the Revenue for the total amount by which interest payments have been reduced for its borrowers.

But building societies and banks owe the Revenue an estimated £30 million this year for wrongly claimed relief, it emerged this week. This is substantially higher than the £10 million lenders overclaimed last year.

The Revenue has indicated that it will clamp down on lenders who claim back too much. It said: "It could be that we were more lenient in the early years, when Miras was first introduced. After ten years, they should be getting it right."

Lenders say it is up to borrowers to inform them in writing of changes in circumstances such as marriage or the buying out of partners. However, the Revenue says that it is then up to lenders to act on this information and adjust payments. If they do not, borrowers might, unwittingly, receive too much Miras for years.

Building societies and banks now say that pressure from the Revenue is likely to make lenders more determined to claw back the money from borrowers. Two years ago, Leeds Permanent and Nationwide paid the Revenue more than £1 million between them, to take account of underpayment by borrowers, when mistakes in Miras came to light. However, Geoff Harris, Miras liaison officer at Abbey National, said: "I would be surprised if most lenders didn't turn more to their borrowers, now the Revenue is tightening up."

Most borrowers getting too much relief are couples who bought together then married during the past five years. Before August 1988, each unmarried borrower in a property got tax relief on the first £30,000 of a loan. Although the 1988 Budget limited this to £30,000 of relief per property, borrowers could continue to get two sets of relief if they did not move. However, if they got married, they would be allowed only one set of Miras between them.

Lenders are still discovering hundreds of cases of couples who bought together before August 1988, subsequently married, but are still having their payments worked out as if they qualified for two sets of relief.

Owing to administrative errors by Halifax building society, one couple, Andy and Sophie Bainbridge, faced a £3,000 bill for overclaimed relief when they tried to move house in November. They had bought their flat in Colliers Wood, Southwest London, in 1987, two years before they married. They each had tax relief on their £57,500 loan. When they married in 1989, Mrs Bainbridge let the Halifax know by telephone but was not told to put it in writing. The Bainbridges thought the Halifax had changed its records as it started to address them as Mr and Mrs Bainbridge in correspondence. Between mid-1989 and the end of 1992, they continued to get tax relief on all their borrowing, rather than on just £30,000, as they should have done. Then, last September, Halifax wrote to tell them they owed just over £3,000. If they had remained in Colliers Wood, they would have paid it back over the term of the mortgage. But they were about to move house, so were told they would have to pay the money in a lump sum before Halifax would redeem the mortgage.

They already faced a £3,500 shortfall because the mortgage was more than their buyer was paying for the flat. In the end, the Bainbridges borrowed the £3,000 from Mrs Bainbridge's father. Mrs Bainbridge said: "You expect professional organisations like the Halifax to get it right."

The Halifax said: "We acknowledge there have been administrative errors and the couple were entitled to a better standard of service." The society would meet the Bainbridges to reach "a mutually acceptable solution". It would not commit itself on whether this solution would include compensation but said there would be "a recognition that errors had been made".

The Halifax is contacting a number of other borrowers in a similar position, after carrying out a big audit of its Miras accounts last year. The borrowers are likely to have to pay unless they can prove that the mistake was the Halifax's.

The Woolwich has a similar approach, as do the Abbey National and the Cheltenham & Gloucester. The C&G claimed back £100,000 from 200 borrowers getting more relief than they should have.

Abbey's Geoff Harris said it was borrowers who had had the use of the money and, therefore, generally owed it to the Revenue.

One Barclays customer found, however, that the bank was quick to pay a tax demand for more than £500 of overclaimed Miras, when told that there had been no change in the customer's circumstances.

'We were more lenient when Miras was introduced — after ten years, they should be getting it right'

No shelter for those who claim too much mortgage tax relief

THE number of borrowers entitled to claim two sets of tax relief on their mortgage interest repayments is dwindling (Sara McConnell writes).

Only those who exchanged contracts on their present home before July 31 1988 and whose circumstances have not changed since can safely say they are entitled to tax relief on £60,000 of interest payments. Anyone else should tell their lender that their circumstances have changed. They may find they are only entitled to one set of Miras. If they have been getting too much relief, they face having to pay it back.

Nigel Lawson, the then Chancellor, announced in his 1988 Budget that anyone buying after July 31 1988 would only be eligible for one set of tax relief per property. Until then, each borrower could get £30,000 of relief. This announcement signalled a frantic rush to buy in the months after the Budget, particularly from young people clubbing together to buy and get the maximum relief.

Hundreds of couples who bought a home while unmarried, then subsequently married without moving house, have fallen into the trap of thinking they can continue to claim two sets of relief.

Lenders must be told in writing that a couple has married and is no longer eligible for two sets of relief. Otherwise, the lender will have the right to claim the money back. This will normally be done by adjusting the amount of monthly payment.

Geoff Harris, Miras liaison officer for Abbey, said: "If the account is still open, the monthly amount is adjusted. The borrower should never have to find a capital sum."

Those who receive a demand for a lump sum from their tax office should not have to pay it but should check with their lender that their payment has been adjusted, he said. Borrowers who bought with friends before August 1988 then buy out their fellow owners' share are also only entitled to one set of Miras.

Relief on loans for home improvements was also abolished in 1988 although these loans will keep their relief until a borrower remortgages.

Those renting out homes they cannot sell or holiday homes are normally only allowed to claim relief on one of these homes. They can only claim relief for both if they are "actively trying to sell" one of them and then only for 12 months. Homes with tenants in them do not count as being "actively sold".

Some borrowers may be getting too much relief through no fault of their own. The Inland Revenue is concerned that some lenders are adding contents insurance premiums onto the mortgage repayment and calculating relief on the premium as well as the interest repayment. Lenders are supposed to separate out the contents insurance from the rest of the loan when they calculate how much Miras to claim back, although they are allowed to include buildings insurance with the interest repayment. Lenders admit there is no way borrowers can discover whether this is happening just by looking at their mortgage account.

It would also be difficult for borrowers more than 12 months in arrears to work out whether lenders had obeyed the rules. Interest on arrears of more than £1,000 amassed over more than two years and where no arrangement has been made to clear the debt, do not qualify for relief if arrears are capitalised and added to the outstanding mortgage balance. But one lender said the Revenue was keen to turn a blind eye.

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6% GROSS % PA

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Barclays – Higher Rate Deposit	Aa	2.20%
Woolwich – Prime Gold	A	4.10%
Midland Bank – Saver Plus	A	2.00%

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Making money from tax muddles

BY LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR



Longhurst: £1 million estimate

LENDERS face even larger bills for Miras muddles from the summer. In this year's Budget, it was announced that from Royal Assent of the Finance Bill the Inland Revenue will be able to charge interest and penalties on lenders who have overclaimed mortgage tax relief.

Until now, no penalties have been charged and lenders have felt that the cost of operating the system for the Revenue was a large enough burden without being charged extra for mistakes.

Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, estimates the administration costs of applying tax relief to mortgages at £1 million a year.

Details of the penalties are not yet published but are likely to be in line with others imposed by the Revenue. Late payments of tax by the self-employed or employers delaying handing over money taken from the staff of employees are currently charged at 6.25 per cent. Those taxpayers who have overpaid also receive interest at this rate.

In cases where there has been fraud or neglect, the Revenue can charge a penalty of up to 100 per cent of the unpaid tax — doubling the bill. The maximum is rarely charged and even where a case is very serious the Revenue will mitigate the amount of penalty if the taxpayer cooperates.

No-one expects banks or building societies to have fraudulently withheld tax but the Revenue already knows which are the least efficient at operating the scheme. The announcement of the intention to levy interest and penalties under the Taxes Management Act 1970 are likely to ensure that more care is taken in future.

The Revenue announcement said: "The new measure does not impose any additional obligations but will set out clearer powers, similar to those already applying for the other schemes, the recovery of such amounts by assessment, with interest if appropriate, and where there has been fraud or neglect to make the lender liable to penalties."

Before the change to Mortgage Interest Relief At Source in 1983, every change in mortgage interest rates required a new tax code to be issued to homebuyers. Mortgage payments were made gross and the tax relief was given through the tax code and applied to wages. It gave rise to many mistakes and when interest rates went up borrowers had to wait to get the higher tax relief.

Wider choice for next BT sale

INVESTORS planning a purchase in the third sell-off of British Telecom shares this summer should have a choice of several hundred share shops offering cheap dealing (Sara McConnell writes).

The Treasury announced this week that it was expanding the system of share shops set up for the previous sell off of shares in November 1991.

Then, the Treasury designated eight high street institutions, including the four main clearing banks, as share shops. These were meant to make it easier and cheaper for private investors to buy and sell shares and, ideally, encourage them to buy more shares in other companies rather than taking the profit on their BT shares as soon as they were allocated.

Members of the public who registered through share shops got priority if there was heavy demand for shares, as they will in this summer's sale.

For this forthcoming sell off, which could take place as early as July, brokers and independent financial advisers regulated under the Financial Services Act will be allowed to apply to become share shops, as will banks and building societies.

In practice, only brokers and advisers authorised under the Financial Services Act to handle clients' money will be able to act as a share shop because cheques for shares will be made out to the share shop rather than to BT.

The Treasury can reject unsuitable candidates. But Rory Tapner, a director at Warburgs, said it would ultimately be up to regulators to make sure their members did not set themselves up as share shops and handle cheques if not authorised.

Share shops will be identifiable to the public by a specially created share shop symbol, a document issued to 100 prospective share shops this week said. Institutions acting as share shops will apply for shares on the applicant's behalf, unlike last time, when applicants simply nominated a share shop when they applied and were then issued with vouchers to buy and sell.

But once applications have been processed this summer, investors will not have to sell or buy shares through the share shop they used to make their application. Share shops will be free to set whatever dealing charges they like.

Investors who want to try and get higher allocations will also be able to bid for stock in a retail tender through their broker alongside institutional investors, as with the last sale of BT shares in 1991. It will also be possible to register with the Share Information Office, to be set up when the marketing push begins. People registering in this way will be sent information before the offer, a prospectus and a personalised application form.

Temptation of unit trust yields

BY HELEN PRIDHAM

WITH many building society investors looking for better returns, attention is focusing on the yields from unit trusts.

One result of the Budget change to tax credits means that the net yield on cash funds will rise next month and again next year. The current 4.5 per cent net yield on the Fidelity cash unit trust will rise to 4.65 per cent when the tax rate is cut to 22.5 per cent and to 4.8 per cent in April next year. Non-taxpayers will only be able to claim back 22.5 per cent in the next financial year and 20 per cent after that.

The better returns on small minimum investments are likely to attract even more interest. But investors must be cautious. Not only can these percentages vary widely according to the type of fund but currently, there is no agreed basis for their calculation. So if one company offers a higher yield than another on the same type of fund, it may simply reflect a different method of calculation, rather than any difference in a manager's skill in selecting the best assets. Cash and bond unit trusts pose a special problem as they are often bought just on yields. But there is no set standard as to how yields should be calculated. Thus a cash fund yield may reflect current income, historic returns, or a forecast. There is nothing to say a manager should deduct expenses from the quoted yield. It may be a simple or compound rate. If it is compound, there are no rules on how it is done.



ALAN WELLER

Daily income yield basis: Marc Sylvain, executive director of Fidelity Investments

Although it was mooted at least two years ago, the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation has only this month asked the Unit Trust Association to agree a basis for calculating yields.

Cash fund managers such as Fidelity would welcome a fixed industry rule on how yields should be calculated. Marc Sylvain, of Fidelity, says: "We know how we calculate our yield. We take the actual daily income. But we know that others must be using different methods by looking at their published yields. We just cannot see how they are realistically achieving their current yields in the same marketplace which means they must either be using an historical figure or some type of forecast."

Beware over-insurance

BY LIZ DOLAN

FALLING building costs in many areas mean some people are now paying too much for buildings insurance. Tenders have fallen nearly one third since 1989, says Neil Pountney, national construction spokesman of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. In the past year alone, they have fallen 6 per cent.

Mr Pountney said: "What you have to watch is the tendency by insurers to index rebuilding costs. These indices tend to distort. They will have made a big difference to sums insured over the past three or four years." He recommends an independent survey by a chartered surveyor every two or three years to counteract indexation distortions. But this will cost at least £250.

Mr Pountney says prices will soar the moment the construction industry starts to recover. Therefore, people who reduce sums insured should keep a close eye on charges over the next year or so, then readjust.

Insurers, who have for years been stressing the perils of underinsurance, are likely to be wary of requests for premium reductions. The Association of British Insurers said where building costs had fallen, they had done so only by a small margin. A spokesman said: "In some areas, costs may now be lower, but only by 1 or 2 per cent. They have largely remained static, or gone up. In Yorkshire and Humberside they have risen 2-3 per cent." Commercial Union, which insures up to 3 million homes, was little more encouraging. "If you are happy a reduction in sums insured is the right thing to do, we are happy too. What we don't want is for you to put in a claim after major storm damage and find you will have to make up the difference of hundreds or thousands of pounds," it said.

Nationwide treads more warily with new bonus account

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

NATIONWIDE Building Society is launching a 60-day notice account called Bonus 60 on Monday paying up to 8 per cent gross or 6 per cent net. It is the first notice account to be launched since the society ran into trouble at the end of 1991 with its Bright Horizons accounts.

Then the second largest society locked existing savers into 90-day accounts for the full notice period before they could transfer to the higher-paying new 90-day notice account. Hundreds of these investors and others in the old instant access account complained to the Building Societies Ombudsman about not being notified of the better rates available.

Some of those complainants in the instant access account were awarded compensation by the ombudsman early last year. This time the society is writing to all customers in the CapitalBond Direct, CapitalBuilder, monthly income, and one-year bond to tell them of the new account.

Customers in any discontinued account, apart from fixed-rate bonds, will be able to transfer to the Bonus 60 account without notice or penalty.

The Bonus 60 account has a minimum investment of £10,000 and it will pay an extra 0.5 per cent at the end of the first year if no withdrawals are made.

Interest is paid annually on December 31. The gross interest starts at 6.7 per cent (5.03 per cent net) and moves up to 7.5 per cent (5.63 net) at £100,000. The bonus then would take it up to 8 per cent.

The Inland Revenue indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in February 1993

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
January	—	0.680	0.598	0.522	0.442	0.388
February	—	0.673	0.592	0.510	0.437	0.382
March	0.747	0.670	0.587	0.496	0.435	0.380
April	0.713	0.647	0.566	0.464	0.421	0.363
May	0.701	0.640	0.560	0.458	0.419	0.362
June	0.696	0.636	0.556	0.455	0.419	0.362
July	0.695	0.627	0.558	0.457	0.423	0.363
August	0.695	0.620	0.543	0.454	0.419	0.359
September	0.696	0.613	0.540	0.454	0.412	0.355
October	0.687	0.607	0.531	0.452	0.410	0.349
November	0.679	0.602	0.526	0.447	0.398	0.342
December	0.682	0.597	0.527	0.445	0.393	0.344
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
January	0.344	0.250	0.162	0.066	0.024	0.007
February	0.338	0.242	0.155	0.060	0.018	
March	0.333	0.236	0.143	0.056	0.015	
April	0.312	0.214	0.110	0.043	nil	
May	0.307	0.207	0.100	0.040	nil	
June	0.302	0.203	0.096	0.035	nil	
July	0.301	0.202	0.095	0.037	nil	
August	0.286	0.199	0.084	0.035	nil	
September	0.280	0.190	0.073	0.031	nil	
October	0.268	0.181	0.065	0.027	nil	
November	0.262	0.171	0.068	0.024	nil	
December	0.258	0.168	0.069	0.023	nil	

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.

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Doing it their way: cheaper plots and building costs have given a boost to self-builders and renovators

Self-builders tempted out

BY LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

THE first signs of improvement in the housing market are encouraging buyers to purchase wrecks and renovate them or buy plots of land and build themselves a home from scratch. The demand for renovation loans has caused Abbey National to review the range of loans it offers. Buyers seeking bargains can often buy more house for their money if they choose a wreck and then pay a builder to do it up or take on some of the work themselves.

Abbey National's self-build package had not catered for these people but it will soon launch one that will fund those wanting to self-build and others wanting to renovate. "There are plenty of builders need the work at the moment so taking on an old wreck is less daunting than it might have been in the past," Abbey said.

Instead of homeowners reporting stories of builders disappearing for weeks at a time and increasing the cost as the work gets further and further behind schedule, now stories circulate of work completed on time for the original estimate. Because prices have been falling for all properties, those in a poor state that have been empty for a long time have tended not to sell, enabling adventurous buyers to negotiate bargains.

Abbey has in the meantime withdrawn its self-build mortgage while it reviews the market. This lent up to 75 per cent of the property's cost in stage payments. Most self builders were middle aged, said Abbey, except in Scotland and Northern Ireland where some people were given land by their families to build their first home. The Halifax offers a building mortgage. This does not provide funds for buying a plot. Its first stage payment is at the roof level for a bungalow and first floor for a normal house. People buying wrecks and using builders to do them up have the full range of Halifax mortgages to choose from. They will be advanced a sum for the purchase of the property and the rest of the money will be retained and released in stages as the work is done.

Only the purchase money is eligible for mortgage tax relief. Since April 1988 home improvement loans have not qualified for it. Nationwide lends up to 75 per cent of the cost of land and then makes payments at various stages for self-builders. With wrecks, it is cautious, not wanting to be left with a half renovated property worth less than the outstanding loan. It will lend up to 75 per cent of the valuation of a property unfit for habitation.

Barclaycard declares high-tech war on thieves

BY SARA MCCONNELL

BARCLAYCARD holders who decide to go on a sudden and uncharacteristic shopping spree and treat themselves to a new television, CD player and camera in one day are likely to trigger an adverse reaction from Barclays' newest weapon for combating fraud.

From April 1, the bank's Fraud 2000 computer system will be linked to existing card authorisation terminals used in shops for approving card transactions. It is designed to carry out a two-stage checking process so quickly that the shop will have time to call the police to arrest people trying to use stolen cards before they have time to run away. Its installation may lead to 20 more arrests of card fraudsters every day, the bank predicts.

The bank, which lost £31 million on Barclaycard fraud in 1992, says the system will decide in one fifth of a second whether the purchase could be fraudulent on the grounds that it fits a common pattern of card crime.

Popular purchases for thieves with stolen credit cards include easy-to-carry electrical goods like stereos and television sets which can easily be sold at markets or car boot sales for cash. Others include drink and jewellery, both easy to carry and sell.

If the purchase does follow such a pattern, the computer will compare the purchase with the cardholder's normal spending pattern. If the two do not match up, the purchase will be referred to Barclays' Fraud Referral Unit, which will check the customer's identity. This process should take 90 seconds, said Barry Fergus, the bank's project director, fraud control.

It was possible a series of innocent purchases could trigger alarm bells on the new system if they were unusual for that customer and happened to fit in with a common card crime pattern, said Mr Fergus. But these customers would then have their identity checked and verified. He said the system "had been programmed to operate within rigid criteria to ensure that only genuine transactions go through without question."

The system will only work if a purchase is above a retailer's floor limit and has to be authorised. As part of its fight against fraud, Barclays has been lowering the limits above which shop assistants have to get purchases authorised in many shops.

NatWest may quit Air Miles scheme

NATIONAL Westminster bank will decide in the next ten days or so whether to pull out of the Air Miles scheme for its credit card holders (Lindsay Cook writes).

At the end of last year the bank renewed its contract for just six months instead of a full year and said it would be writing to customers in April to tell them whether the scheme would continue.

If it does decide that the scheme, which gives customers one mile for every £10 they spend, is not working, customers are likely to be given at least until the end of the year to book flights to use up the miles earned up until June 30. The miles can be used to buy British Airways tickets.

Options being considered by the bank include modifying the scheme to reward regular users of the card or offering nothing at all. The scheme is open to all NatWest credit cardholders, but they have had to register. More than 1 million have done so since the scheme was launched in January 1989.

The most popular destination is Paris, which costs 450 miles — a credit card spend of £4,500 per person. The scheme also allows miles to be used towards the cost of package holidays. On a typical weekend 2,500 people fly out of Britain thanks to high spending on their NatWest cards.

While the scheme has been popular with many customers, some have found difficulty in booking the flights they want at peak times when there has been availability of seats for paying customers.

Barclaycard offers customers profile points, which can be used to buy gifts in a catalogue or in part-payment. These range from kitchen accessories to dare devil rides or glamorous events. It also has more than one million registered for its scheme and is the longest running scheme for a credit card. Midland briefly had a scheme but discontinued it because it did not feel it was worthwhile.

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*Source: Micropal to 31st December. Figures are based on total return, net income reinvested. †Calculations by Foreign & Colonial Management Ltd using mid-market prices, net income reinvested, at 31st December, includes historical 3.5% notional expenses. Current charges are 0.25% commission excluding 0.5% Government stamp duty (minimum 50p).

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Foreign & Colonial INVESTMENT TRUSTS

For a copy of our Private Investor Plan brochure and application form, mail this coupon to: Foreign & Colonial Management Limited, PO Box 2, Twyford, Berkshire RG10 9NW

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Foreign & Colonial Management Ltd is Manager of twelve Foreign & Colonial Investment Trusts and a member of IMRO. The value of shares can fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount invested. Past performance is no guide to the future.

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No. 1

The Newton PEP invests in the Newton Income Fund, which still ranks first of all PEP-able unit trusts for performance over 7 years and since launch in May 1985.* Indeed, it remains one of the top 15 funds over 1, 3 and 5 years as well.*

The table below shows how your money would have grown, after all charges, had you been able to invest £6,000 in our PEP over each of these periods.*

OVER 1 YEAR £7,112
OVER 3 YEARS £8,070
OVER 5 YEARS £12,860
OVER 7 YEARS £26,604
SINCE LAUNCH IN MAY 1985 £31,214

For full details and application and transfer forms, please call Melanie Hills on Freephone 0500 550 000 at any time, return the coupon below, or fax her on (071) 410 0780 – before 3.30 pm on 5th April.

Past performance is no guarantee of future performance. The value of your investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the full amount invested. Any income and capital gains tax savings by an investor depend on individual circumstances. Our assumptions are based on our understanding of current legislation, which may be subject to change.

To: Melanie Hills, Newton Investment Management Ltd, No 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. Please send me details of: ☐ Newton PEPs and Unit Trusts: ☐ Regular Savings Options: ☐ Pension Fund Services: ☐ Portfolio Management Services.

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NEWTON

Newton Investment Management Limited is a member of IMRO. *Source: Micropal, figures to 1st January 1993, offer to bid, income reinvested.

Put some Pep in your mortgage — if you dare

Rupert Bruce says interest-only loans can be much cheaper, but take care how you save to pay it off

AS THE spring house-buying season approaches, many people's thoughts are turning to mortgages. Most will opt for a traditional repayment or endowment mortgage, but for the open-minded there is a more flexible and effective alternative.

The interest-only mortgage is what its name suggests. The borrower only pays interest on his loan from the building society or other mortgage lender. How he chooses to save to pay off the loan and what type of life insurance he chooses are up to him. Among the more flexible vehicles for saving to pay off the mortgage are investment or unit trust savings schemes. These are often shielded from tax by a Personal Equity Plan (Pep).

But borrowers taking out one of these mortgages should not be dazzled by the glamour of tax avoidance through a Pep. A plan with high charges and a poor investment manager can be less effective than an investment savings scheme with low charges and a good manager but no Pep.

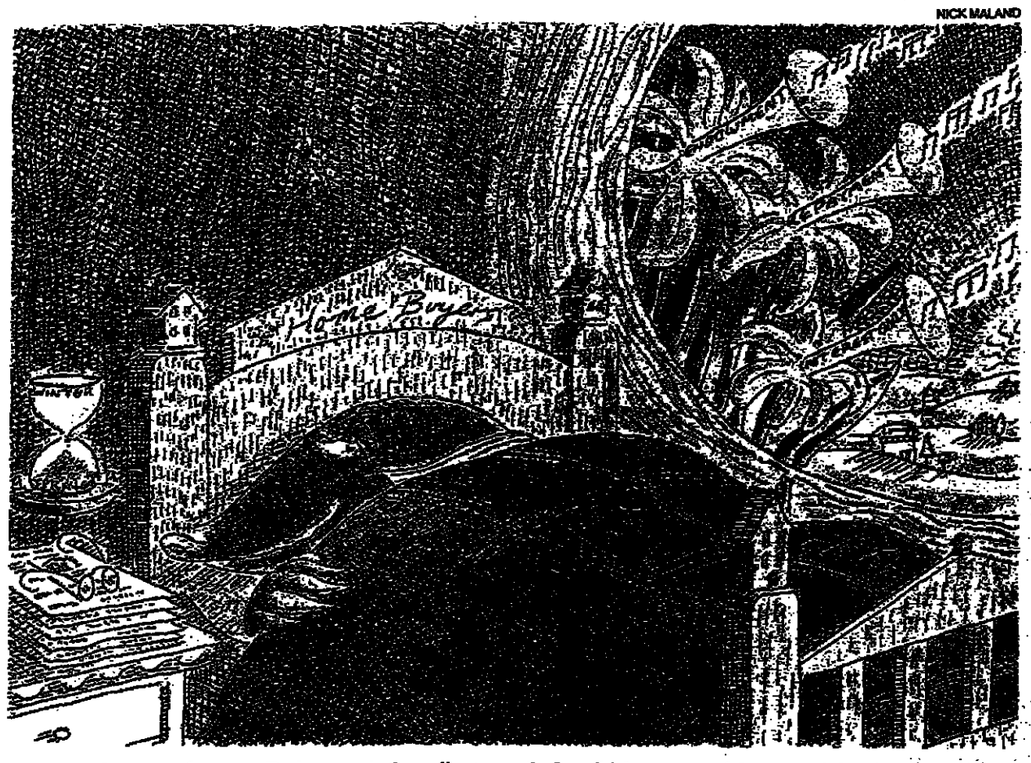
Pep and investment or unit trust mortgages are becoming increasingly popular, but they still account for a small proportion of the mortgage market. An environment department survey showed only 12 per cent of all buyers used an interest-only mortgage in the third quarter of 1992. And by no means all of those would have coupled it to a unit trust savings scheme or Pep.

Kean Seager, managing director of Whitechurch Securities, the Bristol financial adviser and mortgage broker, said: "I think that the main problem is that all buyers want is a mortgage. To be honest I think the explanation of the difference between one mortgage and another goes over a lot of peoples' heads. People buy endowment mortgages because they know that a lot of other people do. It is safety in numbers if you like."

Another mortgage broker says the reason most people buy an endowment mortgage — 70 per cent in the DoE survey — is because the mortgage brokers who advise them receive high commissions.

John Charcol, the London mortgage broker, frequently recommends interest-only

NICK MALAND



mortgages. It accepts fees as well as commissions in return for its advice and so is less likely to push endowments over any other mortgage. Ian Darby, marketing director, said: "People choose these mortgages principally due to the actual investment element of the contract and, obviously, the beneficial tax status of the Pep rather than against the taxed fund of an endowment contract. Also, flexibility: endowments are right for some people but they do not give the option to repay the loan early whereas Peps/savings schemes do." Under the present rules, an investor can pay up to £6,000 into a Pep and not have to pay any tax on consequent capital gains or income. Also interest-only mortgages allow the mortgage holder to pay off the loan early.

The advantage of the investment element is that while the vehicles backing these mortgages tend to be more volatile than endowments, they also tend to offer better returns over reasonable periods of time. The management company of Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust, which has a savings scheme that can be used to pay off mortgages, has done some sums. They show that £30 a month saved in the best endowment policy over 25 years to the start of 1993 would be worth £65,464. The same amount in the investment trust would be worth £97,064.

> 'The explanation of the difference between one loan and another goes over a lot of peoples' heads'

But not all Peps and savings schemes that can be coupled with interest-only mortgages offer equally good value. The costs associated with them vary enormously. At the low end they can be as little as about 0.5 per cent of contributions plus a dealing fee in the case of some investment trusts. But some unit investment trusts and Peps charge up to 6 per cent initially and 1.5 per cent annually.

The Association of Investment Trust Companies has shown, with the aid of Micropal's statistics, that a unit trust — even shielded by a Pep — can end up being worth less than an investment trust without one. A £10 a month investment over 20 years in the average UK equity growth unit trust shielded by a Pep would be worth £15,048 after costs today. The same amount invested in the average UK general investment trust would be worth £19,962 before fees. But, the AITC says, given investment trusts' lower fees it would be worth significantly more even after costs.

The calculation assumes that any capital gains are put in the annual £5,800 tax allowance. But mortgage brokers point out that for a higher rate tax payer who regularly uses up his capital gains tax allowance, the Pep's tax advantages are worth more.

OFT reopens debate over commissions

BY MARGARET DIBBEN

PRE-BUDGET scares that pensions will be made less attractive have so far amounted to nothing.

Earlier this month there were rumours that the pension lump sum would no longer be tax-free and that higher-rate tax relief would be abolished. Both proved unfounded but created a rush of business for insurance companies. Few of those who signed up will have any idea how much they have paid for their policies, even though someone paying £150 a month for a long-term personal pension will pay £1,800 in the first year but nearly half goes to the salesman in commission, in addition to the company's management and administration charges which may be higher.

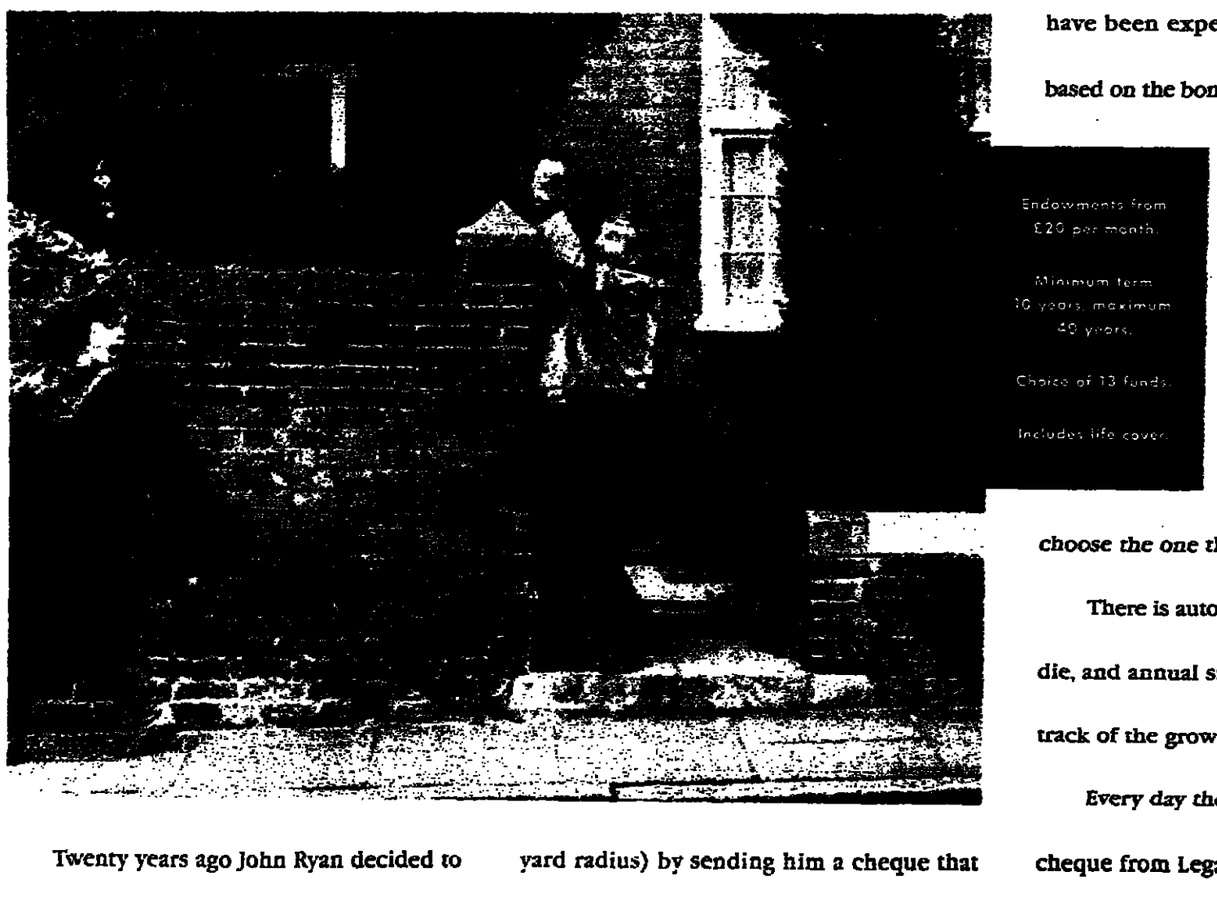
Knowing how much salesmen are paid for selling policies is not prying into their personal affairs because the money comes from the investor's premiums. The more the salesman is paid, the lower the retirement income will be. Last week the Office of Fair Trading called on the Chancellor to make independent advisers disclose the commission they earn in cash terms. Andrew Warwick-Thompson, head of partnership pensions at Bacon & Woodrow, said: "The way the figures are presented by insurance companies is confusing. The public needs to be aware of initial commissions, renewal commissions on regular policies, the Lautro scale, and the real scale the adviser is paid." Lautro is the insurance industry watchdog which has tried to standardise commission.



Warwick-Thompson: "aware"

Less commission is paid on single premium policies than regular policies, whether they are paid monthly or annually. Commission on single-premium pension policies is at least 4 per cent of the premium and comes out of the front-end charge for the policy which is the gap between the buying and selling prices for units.

we apologise to John Ryan's neighbours. Our cheque was obviously too much for him.



Twenty years ago John Ryan decided to trust us with his future. He took out a Legal & General endowment build-up plan confident that when it matured it would be enough to cover the cost of his mortgage.

But that didn't happen.

Instead we gave him a bit of a shock (not to mention anyone within a twenty-five yard radius) by sending him a cheque that not only covered his mortgage but also bought him a car and a holiday as well.

If for example, you had invested in a 20 year endowment plan with Legal & General on January 1st 1973, at the age of 45 and paid in £29.50 each month (a total premium of £7,080) when the policy matured you would have been expecting a payout of £13,629, based on the bonus rates effective at that time, but would actually have received a much larger sum. £29,805 in fact.

We have a full range of with-profits and unit-linked endowments, so you can choose the one that best suits you.

There is automatic life cover, should you die, and annual statements so you can keep track of the growth of your policy.

Every day thousands of savers receive a cheque from Legal & General. So if you like the idea of annoying the neighbours in twenty years time, call Freephone 0800 616 517, between 9am and 8pm, Monday to Friday, quoting reference T3E for further details.

Legal & General

trust us to deliver

Past performance is not a guide to the future. On with-profits contracts, final value will depend upon future bonuses which are not guaranteed. Amounts being paid now reflect the high interest rates and investment returns of the last ten years. On unit-linked plans the value of units may go down as well as up. Full written details are available on request. Legal & General is a member of Lautro.

An Equitable pension means you can vary contributions – without penalty.

You know exactly what your circumstances are today, and can choose a pension plan to suit them perfectly.

But what about tomorrow? Or next year? Or ten years from now?

What you need is a pension plan which is flexible enough to cope with any changes in your lifestyle – without making you pay a penalty.

That is why you should consider an Equitable personal pension plan. We don't pay commission to third parties for the introduction of new business, and our expenses are kept enviably low. So, you don't have to commit yourself to paying identical contributions each year; they can be increased or reduced to suit you – without penalty.

And if you want to retire earlier than planned, your benefits will be exactly the same as if you'd chosen that date in the first place.

What's more, you have the reassurance of knowing that your pension fund is in the hands of one of the finest investment teams in the U.K.

So, if you'd like further information, by post and by telephone, on a personal pension plan that lives up to its name, call Aylesbury (0296) 26226 or return the coupon below.

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PEP

ACT BEFORE 5TH APRIL

To take advantage of the full 1992/93 PEP allowance you must act before 5th April.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1 DEFINITIONS

(1) "Business Day" means a day on which the Managers of the M&G Unit Trust make a price for the purchase and sale of Units.
"Conditions" means these Conditions together with the application form as from time to time amended in accordance with Condition 20.
"Crown Employment" means a person holding an office or employment under the Crown which is of a public nature and the emolument of which is payable out of the public revenues of the United Kingdom or of Northern Ireland.
"IMRO" means the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation Limited.
"Investment" means a holding in a PEP Fund including a Unit or a Share in such a Fund as appropriate.
"Investment Trust" means an investment trust within the meaning of section 842 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, the investment manager of which is an IMRO Company.
"M&G Company" means M&G Financial Services Limited and any other company which is a subsidiary or holding company of it or which is a subsidiary of any such holding company for which purpose the expressions "subsidiary" and "holding company" have the same meanings as in section 736 of the Companies Act 1985.
"Nominee" means any person designated by the Plan Manager under Condition 15 and who may be a associate of the Plan Manager.
"PEP Fund" means a Unit Trust or an Investment Trust Units or Shares in which shall be nominated by the Plan Manager from time to time to be held in Plans offered under these Conditions.
"Plan" means a Personal Equity Plan offered with the Plan Manager by a Qualifying Individual which is governed by these Conditions.
"Planholder" means an individual who has opened a Plan under these Conditions.
"Plan Manager" means M&G Financial Services Limited.
"Qualifying Individual" means an individual, aged 18 years or over, who has not (except as allowed by the Inland Revenue) subscribed for and has any current Personal Equity Plan for the Year or any of the Years for or in respect of which he makes an application to subscribe or subscribed to a Plan under these Conditions, and who is either resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom or, although now resident in the United Kingdom, has been employed in a Crown Employment which are treated as being performed in the United Kingdom.
"Shares" means a share in an Investment Trust (including a package or group of shares) and any interest in such a share held in accordance with the Treasury Regulations, and "shares" shall be construed accordingly.
"Shares Value" means the sum paid or payable in respect of the allotment or allocation of Shares pursuant to a public offer.
"Treasury Regulations" means the regulations for Personal Equity Plans made on 24th March 1989 and any other regulations made from time to time by H.M. Treasury under paragraph 1 of Schedule 23 to the Taxes and Corporation Taxes Act 1988, and s.333 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.
"Units" means units in a Unit Trust and any fractions or dividends thereof (in the decimal arrangements of a Unit scheme).
"Unit Trust" means an authorised unit trust scheme which is a securities scheme or fund of funds as defined in the Treasury Regulations and in the case of which an order is in force under section 78 of the Financial Services Act 1986, the Manager of which is an M&G Company.
"Year" means a year beginning on 6th April in any year and ending with 5th April in the following year.

(2) Reference to any statutory provision or to regulations made thereunder include any modification or re-enactment thereof or of the regulations.
(3) References to gender shall be taken to refer to either gender.
(4) Headings are included for the purpose of guidance and are not part of these Conditions.
(5) The application form shall be treated as part of these Conditions and in case of conflict shall have precedence.

2 INTRODUCTION

(1) The Plan Manager is a member of IMRO and as such is regulated by IMRO in the conduct of its investment business.
(2) The Plan Manager agrees to act as such in relation to the Plan to which the application form relates.
(3) The Plan Manager will from time to time purchase Income Units in Unit Trusts and/or Shares in Investment Trusts for the purposes of Plans effected under these Conditions.
(4) The investment objective of the Planholder shall be taken to be to invest in Units or other PEP Funds as he selects in accordance with these Conditions.
(5) The Plan Manager is entitled to act as principal in transactions with the Plan.

3 THE PLAN

3 APPLICATIONS TO OPEN A PLAN

(1) In order to open a Plan, an individual must be a Qualifying Individual and must submit to the Plan Manager a duly completed application form and must sign the declaration set out on it. The applicant must also either submit
(a) a cheque for his initial subscription together with a duly completed direct debit instruction; or
(b) a cheque for an amount not in excess of the subscription limit for the Year in which the application is made;
or the applicant must arrange for the making or remaking to the Plan Manager of his right to Shares in an Investment Trust which is a PEP Fund which Shares have been allotted or allocated to him in a public offer. If the applicant does not do so or as may be stated on the application form,
(2) The Plan will be opened upon the Planholder's application for the same being accepted by the Plan Manager. For this purpose the application shall be treated as having been accepted
(a) on receipt by the Plan Manager as aforesaid, by (3) below of a duly completed application form together with a cheque or a cheque and a duly completed direct debit instruction, in respect of the cash subscription; or
(b) seven days after actual receipt by the Plan Manager of a duly completed application form and a form of transfer or assignable duly completed payment with a cheque for any Initial Charge plus VAT).
(3) For the purposes of (2)(a) above, the Plan Manager shall be treated as having received the application form together with a cheque in respect of the cash subscription upon the day of receipt of the cheque if the cheque is received by the M&G Head Office, Chelmsford between 9.15 a.m. on any Business Day on the Business Day following receipt if they are received after that time.
(4) Unless the applicant indicates otherwise on his application form, the first will be taken to authorise subscriptions to be made to the Plan in accordance with Condition 5 below values and vest the Planholder or the Plan Manager with the power to complete the contract. The Plan will be governed by these Conditions, as varied in accordance with Condition 20 below.

4 PLANS EFFECTIVE BEFORE 1ST JUNE, 1989

This Condition applies to any Plan opened or dated from any Plan or Plans opened on or before 31st May 1989, which Plan or Plans are treated as a single Plan with effect from 1st June 1989, to which subscriptions can be made in accordance with Condition 5 below.

5 PLAN SUBSCRIPTIONS

(1) The Plan must be the only general Personal Equity Plan in which the Planholder subscribes in any Year but he may subscribe to his Plan in Years following that in which it is opened in accordance with any requirements of the Treasury Regulations or of the Board of Inland Revenue.
(2) A Planholder may discontinue subscriptions to his Plan either temporarily or permanently without penalty and without prejudice to the continuation of the Plan but he may not subscribe to a Plan after its closure in accordance with Condition 8 below.
(3) Total gross subscriptions to the Plan during a Year when added to the Shares Value of any Shares purchased or allocated to the Plan in that Year may not exceed the overall subscription limit.
(4) A Planholder can subscribe to a Plan either by paying an amount of cash to the Plan Manager or by transferring or consenting to the Plan Manager has right to Shares in an Investment Trust which is a PEP Fund, which Shares have been allocated or allotted to him in a public offer.
(5) Where the Planholder has only subscribed to the Plan by transferring or consenting to the Plan Manager Shares in an Investment Trust, the Planholder may by agreement with the Plan Manager make cash subscriptions to the Plan relating to that Year or in future Years.
(6) If at any time a Planholder ceases to be a Qualifying Individual he shall not thereafter make any subscriptions to a Plan.

6 TRANSFER OF PLANS

(1) The Planholder may at any time by written request to the Plan Manager direct the Plan Manager within such time as shall be agreed between the Planholder and the Plan Manager to transfer the Plan (and at the option of the Planholder the proceeds or shares of the investments comprised in the Plan together with any cash balances and any other rights held in the Plan) to another plan manager who
(a) fulfils the conditions in the Treasury Regulations;
(b) is approved by the Board of Inland Revenue to act as a plan manager; and
(c) agrees to accept the transfer.
(2) Where the Planholder has given notice under (1) of this Condition the investments will be sold immediately prior to the transfer of the Plan.
(3) Where the Plan is transferred pursuant to a direction given under (1) of this Condition, the Plan Manager will transfer the investments held in the Plan (or the proceeds of sale of such investments if the Planholder has so elected) and will pay or transfer any cash balances and any other rights directly to the new plan manager.
(4) Notwithstanding (1) and (2) above, the Plan Manager may deduct from the amount of any payment or transfer any sums due to the Plan Manager pursuant to these Conditions.
(5) Where the Planholder has ceased to be a Plan to be transferred in accordance with these Conditions, before the date of transfer, shares in another Plan in another plan manager. These Conditions shall apply until all outstanding transactions and liabilities have been performed and discharged.

7 WITHDRAWALS

(1) A Planholder may at any time by written request to the Plan Manager direct the Plan Manager to transfer or pay to him all or any of the investments comprised in the Plan and the whole or part of the cash balances and of any other rights held in the Plan, subject to the provisions of (2) below.
(2) Where a Planholder makes a written request under (1) above and does not specify in it that the investments in respect of which the request is made are to be transferred to another, the Plan Manager will, within such time as the Plan Manager decides, sell or realise such investments and will, on the instalment day applicable to a sale of realisation, pay or transfer the proceeds of sale and any cash balances and any other rights which may be transferred, as appropriate, to the Planholder.
(3) Notwithstanding (1) above, the Plan Manager may decline to the balance of any payment or transfer
(a) any sums due to the Plan Manager pursuant to these Conditions, and
(b) a sum determined by the Plan Manager to represent the tax liabilities of the Planholder in connection with the Plan for which the Plan Manager is or may be accountable under the Treasury Regulations.
(4) Where investments in a Plan are to be transferred in specie in accordance with this Condition before fraction of Units, such fractions shall be sold and the proceeds of sale paid to the Planholder.

8 CLOSING OF PLANS

(1) The Plan shall be closed with immediate effect in the following circumstances:
(a) on the Plan Manager giving written notice of closure to the Planholder if it becomes impossible to comply with the Treasury Regulations;
(b) in accordance with Condition 15 below, if the Inland Revenue treat the Plan as void under the Treasury Regulations;
(c) on expiry of reasonable written notice given by the Plan Manager to the Planholder of the Plan Manager's intention to cease to act as a plan manager; or
(d) where after a Planholder withdraws all of his investments and any cash balances and any other rights held in the Plan either:
(i) the Plan Manager receives confirmation that the Commissioners for the Inland Revenue or
(ii) the Treasury Regulations do not or no longer allow the Planholder to make further subscriptions to his Plan.
(2) When a Plan closes, the Plan Manager will transfer to the Planholder all the investments and any cash balances and any other rights held in the Plan except that where the investments include fractions of Units, such fractions shall be sold and the proceeds of sale paid to the Planholder.
(3) During the period of notice envisaged in (1)(c) of this Condition, the Planholder may give the Plan Manager a written request under Conditions 6 or 7 above before the Plan Manager ceases to act as such and the Plan Manager will comply with any such request.
(4) A Plan ceases to exist and payable to the completion of the realisations envisaged in (2) and (3) above, the Plan Manager may deduct from the amount of any payment or transfer
(a) any sums due to the Plan Manager pursuant to these Conditions, and
(b) a sum determined by the Plan Manager to represent the tax liabilities of the Planholder in connection with the Plan for which the Plan Manager is or may be accountable under the Treasury Regulations.
(5) Notwithstanding that a Plan has been closed, these Conditions shall apply until all outstanding transactions and liabilities have been performed and discharged.

9 INVESTMENT

9 CASH SUBSCRIPTIONS

(1) The Plan Manager will apply cash subscriptions made by the Planholder in purchasing Units in one or more Unit Trusts which are PEP Funds in accordance with the Planholder's selection on his application form or the equivalent required under Condition 10(5) above.
(2) The Planholder may by written notice to the Plan Manager direct that future cash subscriptions for the Plan shall be applied by the Plan Manager in purchasing Units in another Unit Trust or other Unit Trusts which are PEP Funds then available for the application of cash subscriptions and which the Planholder shall select.

10 DEALING

(1) Subject to Condition 11 below, all purchases and sales of Units will be made by the Plan Manager at the offer price or bid price calculated as at the regular valuation point of the particular Unit Trust next following the receipt of written purchase or sale instructions or a subscription made by direct debit or an income payment or the equivalent by the Plan as appropriate.
(2) All sales of Shares will be made by the Plan Manager at or about 2.30 p.m. on the Business Day on which written sale instructions are received. All written sale instructions relating to the sale of Shares received in M&G House, Chelmsford after 2.15 p.m. on any Business Day shall be treated as received on the next Business Day.

11 SWITCHING

The Planholder may by written request to the Plan Manager and in accordance with the procedure set out in the brochure direct that:
(a) Units held in the Plan shall be sold and the proceeds of sale applied immediately prior to 2.15 p.m. on the following Business Day in purchasing Units in another Unit Trust or other Unit Trusts which are PEP Funds available for the application of cash subscriptions, or that
(b) Shares held in the Plan shall be sold and immediately prior to 2.15 p.m. on the applicable Stock Exchange settlement day after the proceeds of sale applied in purchasing Units in one or more Unit Trusts which are PEP Funds available for the application of cash subscriptions.

12 THE PLAN

(1) The Plan includes the Planholder's investments in PEP Funds together with any cash balances and all income and other rights and the benefit of any tax relief in respect of the investments, and any interest arising on the deposit of cash balances in the Fund.
(2) All cash received in the Plan including subscriptions, income, tax repayments and the proceeds of sale of investments will be credited to a sterling client account maintained by the Plan Manager with an authorised institution within the meaning of the Banking Act 1987 and will be applied by the Plan Manager in accordance with these Conditions and in any event within two days of being received in accordance with these Conditions.
(3) All proceeds from the sale of investments must be applied in the purchase of PEP investments pursuant to Condition 10 and 11 above, unless the Planholder instructs the Plan Manager that such proceeds are to be
(a) reinvested in another plan manager pursuant to Condition 6 above; or
(b) paid to the Planholder pursuant to Condition 7 above.

13 INVESTMENT OF PLAN MONEY

(1) Subject to (2) below and any election made by the Planholder pursuant to Condition 14, all income including distributions and tax repayments attributable to an investment in a PEP Fund will be applied by the Plan Manager within or (subject to the payment of the Initial Charge plus VAT as provided in Condition 22) in purchasing or subscribing for further Shares in that investment but any cash balance arising on the purchase of fewer Shares in a PEP Fund shall be carried forward and applied in two or future purchases or tax repayments in respect of that Fund.
(2) Income being (before) received in respect of Shares will be applied last in the payment of the Plan Manager's annual fee calculated in accordance with Condition 22 below.

14 PAYMENTS OF PLAN MONEY

(1) The Planholder may by written request to the Plan Manager elect to receive the dividends paid on Shares (regardless of any tax repayments). Any Initial Charge payable in accordance with Condition 22 below shall be deducted from any payments to the Planholder pursuant to this Condition.
(2) The Planholder may by written request to the Plan Manager elect to receive distributions and/or repayments attributable to Units which are investments held in a Plan on that such distributions and tax repayments are not reinvested in accordance with Condition 13(1) above. No election may, however, be made in respect of any Unit Trust unless
(a) (i) one or more of the Planholder's cash subscriptions to the Plan have been reinvested in that Unit Trust, and
(ii) the Plan Manager has reinvested that Unit Trust as one in respect of which the payment of Plan income is currently available.
(3) A written request to the Plan Manager under (1) or (2) above shall be made at the time provided for the purpose by the Plan Manager and the election shall come into effect seven Business Days after it has been received by the Plan Manager.
(4) A written request under (1) or (2) above may be withdrawn by a letter written request to the Plan Manager which shall take effect seven Business Days after the Plan Manager received it.
(5) Income payments will be made in accordance with the Planholder's election, instructions shortly after receipt.

15 THE PLANS

These Conditions shall continue to be enforceable between the Plan Manager and the Planholder unless and until the Inland Revenue treat the Plan as void under the Treasury Regulations, at which time the Plan will immediately close.

16 INDIVIDUAL SURRENDER

(1) The Planholder will at all times be the beneficial owner of the investments and cash balances and of any other rights from time to time held in the Plan.
(2) Without prejudice to the generality of (1) above, the Planholder will not dispose of or transfer any interest in such investments or any such rights or cash balances, and will not create (or have outstanding) any charge or security on or over any such investments or any such rights or cash balances.

17 TAX ENTITLEMENTS

In accordance with the Treasury Regulations, the Plan Manager will make all necessary claims for tax relief relating to investments in PEP Funds and rights and cash balances which are held in the Plan.

18 REGISTRATION OF INVESTMENTS

(1) Investments will be registered in the name of the Plan Manager or, if the Plan Manager so designates, in the name of a Nominee.
(2) Subject to the Treasury Regulations, the Planholder hereby authorises the Plan Manager to take all such decisions and instructions as may from time to time be necessary to enable the Plan Manager to discharge of the Plan Manager's responsibilities under these Conditions and accepts that the Plan Manager will not be responsible for the defaults of the Nominee.
(3) All documents of or relating to title in respect of investments, and any cash and other rights will be held by or to the order of the Plan Manager.
(4) Investments and rights may not be lent to any third party and no borrowing may be made against the security of any investments.

19 INFORMATION AND VOTING RIGHTS

(1) The Plan Manager will refrain from exercising any voting rights attaching to Shares or Units, unless and until the Planholder has elected to exercise such rights himself under (2) below.
(2) The Planholder may (either in the space provided on the application form or giving one month's prior written notice to the Plan Manager else) as respects investments which (whether held in the Plan:
(a) in the case of an investment in Units in a Unit Trust to be sent the annual accounts of the Unit Trust together with the reports issued by its Manager;
(b) to attend meetings of unitholders and shareholders;
(c) to exercise voting rights; and
(d) to receive additional information relevant to resolutions and shareholders until the Planholder's withdrawal by written request given by the Planholder to the Plan Manager.
(3) The Plan Manager will arrange for the Planholder to be sent the annual report and accounts of any Investment Trust Shares which are held as an investment in a Plan.

20 AMENDMENTS

(1) The Period of Account for the purpose of this Condition will be the six months ending on 30th June and 31st December in every Year, and for each such period in which it is applied to do so by the rules of IMRO the Plan Manager will send to the Planholder a plan statement prepared by reference to the last day in that period. The first Period of Account shall commence when the Plan comes into force and will end on the commencement of the next complete Period of Account.
(2) The plan statement will contain all the information which the Plan Manager is required to give by the Treasury Regulations and the Rules of IMRO.
(3) In relation to the purchase or disposal of investments the plan statement will include all the information which the Plan Manager would have had to include in contract notes under the IMRO Rules had contract notes been sent to the Planholder under the IMRO Rules.
(4) The Plan Manager will, if the Planholder requests it to do so, give sight of and supply to a Planholder copies of all entries in its books relating to the Plan.

21 INFORMATION FOR PLAN MANAGER

(1) The Planholder will supply the Plan Manager with all information which the Plan Manager reasonably requests for the purposes of the Plan, and in particular will promptly inform the Plan Manager of any change in his home address.
(2) The Planholder will promptly inform the Plan Manager in writing if he ceases to be resident and ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom or if whilst non-resident, he ceases to perform duties as a Crown Employee.

22 FEES

(1) To the extent that the investments in the Plan are Units (C) to (4) below apply and to the extent that such investments are Shares (5) to (7) below apply.
(2) The Manager (which in an associate of the Plan Manager for the purposes of the IMRO Rules) of Unit Trusts in which the Plan invests subscriptions will receive any initial charges included in the offer price of units acquired for the Plan, together with the annual management fees of such Unit Trusts, and any other expenses and charges which are properly paid to the Manager of the Unit Trusts (whether in its capacity as manager or otherwise) out of the property of the Unit Trusts.
(3) The Manager of the Unit Trusts referred to in "" above will be the appropriate rates pay the Plan Manager rates expressed in such proportion of the annual charge and annual management fee as is acceptable to the Units held in the Plan
(4) The Plan Manager will out of such sums make any payments to M&G Investment Management Limited which is an associate of the Plan Manager for the purposes of the IMRO Rules in respect of investment management relating to Units held in the Plan which would otherwise have been paid by the Manager of the Unit Trusts.
(5) The Plan Manager may make an Initial Charge of 5% plus VAT (or the Share Value or the cost of purchase or subscription as appropriate of Shares which become investments held in the Plan. The amount will be due and payable to the Plan Manager on acceptance by the Plan Manager of the Planholder's application or as the case of an existing Planholder contemporaneously with the transfer or allocation of Shares to the Plan Manager or purchase of or subscription for further Shares as provided in Condition 5(4) and Condition 10 respectively. The Plan Manager may at its discretion reduce nil or part of the charge or waive it in any particular circumstances.
(6) The Plan Manager will also be entitled to make an annual charge amounting to one quarter per cent per annum in respect of investments held in the Plan which are Shares. The charge will
(a) be due in advance in twelve equal instalments on the first Business Day of every month;
(b) be calculated on the mid-market value of the Shares as quoted by any market maker at 2.30 p.m. on the days mentioned in (a); and
(c) be payable quarterly in arrears on the days mentioned in (a) as the Plan Manager shall in its absolute discretion determine or in respect of Shares which have ceased to be the property of the Planholder as from the date upon which such Shares are sold.
The Plan Manager will exercise its discretion under (c) above so as to attempt to ensure that the annual charge is delayed out of cash held in the Plan and in particular any sums received pursuant to interim and final dividends paid in respect of Shares held in the Plan.
(7) The investment manager (which is an associate of the Plan Manager for the purposes of the IMRO Rules) of Investment Trusts in which the Plan invests or the Investment Trust as appropriate may pay to the Plan Manager sums equivalent to or charges, fees or commissions received by or the Plan Manager in respect of such expenditure, marketing and other services (excluding the provision of Regulated as it may perform in respect of the investments Trusts and any public offer in relation thereto.

23 DISCHARGE OF DECLARATIONS TO THE PLAN MANAGER

To the extent that payments of any sum due to the Plan Manager (whether in respect of fees or otherwise) cannot be made out of cash held in a Plan, the Plan Manager may at its discretion sell investments held in the Plan and apply the proceeds of sale in payment of such sum.

24 SECURITY

The Planholder agrees for himself and his personal representatives to indemnify the Plan Manager and the Nominee and at all times to keep the Plan Manager and the Nominee indemnified in respect of all liabilities, costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Plan Manager and the Nominee (except when caused by their own negligence) in connection with the establishment, administration and closure of the Plan and any amendments, disposal or holding of Shares under the Plan.

V GENERAL

25 VARIATION AND AMENDMENT OF THESE CONDITIONS

The Plan Manager may at any time and from time to time by written notice to the Planholder make such changes to and to these Conditions as it shall determine provided that no such change shall be made which results in the Plan ceasing to qualify under the Treasury Regulations, and the Plan Manager will give reasonable notice of such changes to Planholders as circumstances warrant.

26 GOVERNING LAW

These Conditions and the relationship between the Plan Manager and the Planholder shall be governed by English law.

27 DEATH

(1) The tax exemptions applicable to the Plan will terminate automatically on the Planholder's death.
(2) Subject to such formalities as the Plan Manager may specify, it shall pay to personal representatives the proceeds of sale thereof) and any cash balance and any other rights held in the Plan which can be transferred to or to the order of the Planholder's personal representatives.
(3) These Conditions shall continue to apply until all outstanding transactions and liabilities have been performed and discharged and payments or transfers have been made in accordance with (2) above.
(4) Where investments in a Plan to be transferred in accordance with (2) above without fractions of Units, such fractions shall be sold and the proceeds of sale paid to or to the order of the Planholder's personal representatives.

28 TREASURY REGULATIONS

The Plan Manager will notify the Planholder if by reason of any failure to apply the provisions of the Treasury Regulations the Plan has or will become void.

29 NOTICES OR RECEIPTS

Notices or requests made by the Planholder to the Plan Manager shall be overlong and will be acknowledged by the Plan Manager unless verbally to an wrong.

30 COMPLAINTS

The Plan Manager operates a written complaints procedure in accordance with the IMRO Rules. The Planholder may address a complaint to the Plan Manager or to IMRO

31 COMPENSATION

In the event that the Plan Manager is not able to meet its financial liabilities to the Planholder, the Planholder will be entitled to compensation under the Investors' Compensation Scheme established under the Financial Services Act 1986

HOW THE PLAN WORKS

The application forms can be used for any eligible M&G PEP Fund

Lump Sum You can invest from £1,000 to £6,000 by cheque in any one tax year.

The whole of each contribution is invested in income units of the M&G unit trust you choose at the applicable offer price. Income (including tax repayments) will be reinvested in the purchase of further income units in the applicable fund at a discount to the prevailing offer price equivalent to the Manager's preliminary charge, unless an investor has arranged for this to be paid by direct credit to his bank or building society account. Although you are always the beneficial owner of your units, they will be registered in the name of M&G Financial Services Limited, the registered PEP manager and a member of IMRO.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE M&G PEP

Complete the appropriate application form(s) and return them to M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. All applications must be accompanied by a cheque made payable to M&G Financial Services Limited. Applications must be received at our Chelmsford office before 9.15am on 5th April 1993 to be eligible for the 1992/93 PEP. Units will be bought at the price calculated as at the next regular valuation point of the Fund after your application has been received.

STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Twice each year we will send you a statement and valuation of your Plan made up to 30th June and 31st December within 25 business days of these dates. We will also send you a six-monthly investment report covering all the unit trusts available for investment through the M&G PEP at that time. Copies of the managers' reports together with Scheme Particulars are available for any M&G PEP Fund free of charge if requested.

HOW CAN I WITHDRAW MY MONEY

You can withdraw all or part of your plan at any time. Units are sold for you at the price calculated at the next regular valuation point of the Fund after we receive your instructions in writing. Your proceeds will be sent within 4 working days and will be entirely tax-free.

PRICES AND YIELDS

The prices are calculated at 9.15a.m. each business day, and the Managers have a discretion to carry out additional valuations when they consider it desirable so to do. Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The spread is the difference between the "offered" price (at which you buy units) and the " bid" price (at which you sell). The unit price must rise by this amount before you cover your dealing costs. The managers have a discretion to vary the pricing basis of the units and also the spread within a range, calculated in accordance with statutory regulations.
There are no extra charges for investing in the PEP. All PEP costs are absorbed in the unit trust charges.

THE MANAGED INCOME FUND

The Managed Income Fund is a managed portfolio of a selection of M&G's unit trusts and seeks to achieve a gross yield higher than that of the FT All-Share index, coupled with long-term growth of both income and capital. The Fund is structured to react to prevailing market conditions. The fund manager determines the proportion of the Fund to be invested between equity and the fixed interest unit trusts. Up to 40% of the Fund in aggregate, can be invested in The M&G Gilt and Fixed Interest Income Fund and The M&G Treasury Fund giving the Fund a defensive option. Alternatively, up to 100% of the Fund could be invested in M&G's equity-based unit trusts if the manager views the investment climate to be suitable. It is likely that the manager will always retain some investment in the fixed interest funds. Investors should note that the level of distribution on this fund may fluctuate.
The Fund complies with the requirements to be a qualifying investment for general Personal Equity Plans which currently require at least half of the assets of underlying unit trusts to be invested in the ordinary shares of companies in the European Community (including the United Kingdom).
On 8th March 1993, the offered price was 25.3p and the estimated gross current yield was 4.90%. The spread on that date was 5.14%. The maximum permitted spread was 6.11%.
The Trustee of The M&G Managed Income Fund is The Royal Bank of Scotland plc.

INCOME – TAX-FREE

The payments represent the net income paid on holdings in the Fund, together with the tax reclaimed on your behalf in respect of the income paid two months previously. The twelve distributions can either be paid directly to a bank/building society account, or reinvested free of the initial charge to purchase further units in the Fund. The first distribution will be paid on 21st June 1993.

CHARGES

The Managers charges are 4.5% initial and 1.5% annual. These are the only charges payable. There is no double charging of management fees within the Fund as the Managers' rebate the initial and annual Managers' charges on the underlying unit trusts. The trust deed authorises the managers to impose an initial charge of 5% of the creation price of each unit issued. The trustees' fees are borne by the managers, although the trust deed authorises these to be charged to the Fund.

THE FUTURE

Although you can cash in your PEP at any time, the value of the tax benefits and the benefits of investing through M&G unit trusts should become greater and greater as time goes on. You should therefore use your PEP entitlement every year.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The M&G Handbook has full details of our range of funds and Scheme Particulars, copies are available on request.
The value of a unit trust investment and the income from it can go down as well as up. You may not get back the amount you invested.
The value to you of the tax benefits will depend on your own circumstances. The tax regime of PEPs could change in the future.
Your rights as a planholder are defined by The M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plan Terms and Conditions set out in this advertisement. The Plan Manager is M&G Financial Services Limited, a member of IMRO, of M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB, Telephone (0245) 390390. The M&G Managed Income Fund is managed by our sister company, M&G Securities Limited (a member of both IMRO and Lautro) of the same address.

NOTES TO HELP YOU IN COMPLETING THE M&G 1992/93 PEP APPLICATION FORM

Note 1 Please give your daytime telephone number so that if a query arises in relation to your form we can attempt to contact you at once and speed up the processing of your application. No salesman will call. Where this business has been introduced via an authorisedintermediary, M&G will contact this intermediary.

Note 2 You must supply your National Insurance Number (NINO) and if you know them, your tax district and reference number.

If you are a married woman you should supply your own NINO and if you know them, your own tax district and reference number. You should NOT supply those of your husband.

Your NINO may be obtained from your Employer or local Tax Office.

A National Pension Number, where applicable, is an acceptable alternative if you are unable to provide a NINO. A National Health Number is NOT acceptable.

Important: your application may not be accepted unless the relevant information is provided.

Note 3 A tax year runs from 6th April to 5th April of the following year. For example: a plan opened during the period 6th April 1992 to 5th April 1993 would be for the tax year ending 1993.

Note 4 Distributions and tax repayments will be paid by direct credit into your bank or building society. Tick the box to receive monthly income and M&G will send you direct credit instructions which you should complete and return at least seven business days before the first payment of income is desired.

Note 5 Under the Financial Services (Cancellation) Rules, an investor is under certain circumstances entitled to cancel a Plan which he has opened and have returned to him the sum invested. These circumstances are set out on the application form. When an investor wishes to exercise the right to cancel he must do so within fourteen days after the date on which he received a Notice of the Right to Cancel from M&G. An investor will not get a full refund of the money paid where the purchase price of the investment has fallen before M&G is aware that he has exercised his right of cancellation, because an amount equal to such fall in the purchase price will be deducted from the refund otherwise received.

Note 6 Your M&G PEP is invested in income units. No certificates are issued to Planholders. Details of your investment will be shown in the acknowledgement which will be sent to you once your application has been accepted by M&G. It is therefore important that you retain the acknowledgement for your records. Please also retain the Terms and Conditions enclosed.

Note 7 Applications and cheques received by 9.15am at M&G House, Chelmsford will be processed on the day of receipt. Applications and cheques received after 9.15am will be processed on the following working day.

DECLARATIONS AND AUTHORISATIONS

I declare that

(a) I am aged 18 years or over.
(b) I am resident and ordinarily resident in the UK for tax purposes or, though non-resident, perform duties which by virtue of Section 132(4)(a) of the Taxes Act (Crown Employees serving overseas) are treated as being performed in the United Kingdom and will inform M&G Financial Services Limited if I cease to be so resident and ordinarily resident or to perform such duties.
(c) I have not subscribed, and will not subscribe, to any other general Personal Equity Plan in or for the current tax year.
(d) the subscription which I will make to the Personal Equity Plan will be made with my own money.
(e) I will inform M&G Financial Services Limited promptly of any change in my circumstances which affects any of this information.

I hereby authorise M&G Financial Services Limited:

(a) to hold my cash subscriptions Plan investments, interest, distributions, and any other rights or proceeds received in respect of those investments and any other cash in the Personal Equity Plan;
(b) to make on my behalf, all appropriate claims for tax relief in respect of Plan investments ;
(c) on my written request to transfer or pay to me, as the case may be, Plan investments, interest, distributions, rights or other proceeds in respect of such investments, or any cash held in the Plan.

APPLICATION FORM

THE FULL 1992/93 £6,000 M&G PEP

If you have a financial adviser, you should consult him before investing.

AN INVESTOR MAY SUBSCRIBE TO ONLY ONE GENERAL PEP FOR ANY ONE TAX YEAR.

To: M&G Financial Services Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB.

I WISH TO OPEN AN M&G UNIT TRUST PERSONAL EQUITY PLAN FOR THE TAX YEAR ENDING 5TH APRIL 1993.
IF YOU ARE AN EXISTING M&G PEP HOLDER, PLEASE GIVE YOUR CUSTOMER REFERENCE NUMBER.

CUSTOMER REF.

DETAILS REQUIRED BY THE INLAND REVENUE **BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE**

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other
Full Forenames
Surname
Permanent Address
Postcode
Daytime Telephone No. (See Note 1)

I understand that the maximum contribution is £6,000 in any tax year (6 April to 5 April). I wish to make a lump sum contribution to the M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plan.

***LUMP SUM* Contribution by cheque minimum £1,000 per fund.**		
M&G MANAGED INCOME FUND	£	.00
	£	.00
	£	.00

If you wish to contribute to this Plan after 5th April 1993, it will be necessary for you to complete another application form.

If you wish to receive income from your PEP, please tick this box (See Note 4). ☐

If you wish to receive copies of the Managers' unit trust report in addition to six-monthly PEP Fund reports please tick this box. ☐

If you wish to attend and vote at Unitholder meetings and to receive additional information to Unitholders please tick this box. ☐

I agree that the Personal Equity Plan opened pursuant to this application, will be governed by the M&G Unit Trust Personal Equity Plan Terms and Conditions set out above, and I agree to be bound by them in all respects.
I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above information is true and correct and I make the declarations and give the authorisations set out opposite.

IMPORTANT: Your application may not be accepted without your National Insurance Number OR National Pension Number (see Note 2).

National Insurance No. | | | | | | |

National Pension No.

Your tax district

and: Your tax reference No.

Signature **Date**

N.B. This form must be accompanied by a cheque made payable to **M&G Financial Services Limited.**

An individual will not have a right to cancel his Plan under the Financial Services (Cancellation) Rules 1989 except where he invests on the personal recommendation of an independent financial adviser. In this case the investor will have a right to cancel unless his customer agreement with that adviser excludes cancellation rights. He will not be given a period in which to withdraw his application. (See Note 5).

M&G Ref. No.
Professional Advisor

NCMM

M&G

THE FULL 1992/93 £6,000 M&G PEP

Over 55? Looking for more income and less tax?

With interest rates falling fast, *down by over 50% since the end of 1990*, now is the time to take action to prevent a similar fall in your living standards.

We have a plan which enables you to smooth out the peaks and troughs normally associated with equity investment, whilst allowing you to benefit from the superior historical performance of asset backed securities. ***This is especially good news if you are retired.***

And, because 'income' is not grossed up, you are less likely to climb into the 40% higher rate tax band (or forfeit age allowance). Your capital can also appreciate without personal Capital Gains Tax, with the fund bearing the liability instead.

Indeed, we can arrange that the proceeds of one particular plan are paid free of Inheritance Tax to your heirs, yet allow you to retain access to your capital at all times.

If you could do with more 'income', and pay less tax, this must be worth looking into. It's easier than opening a Building Society account, and you could be building a more secure long term future ***to help you enjoy the longest holiday of your life.***

Complete the coupon to put us in touch at no charge or obligation.

Towry Law have been advising private clients on Personal Financial Planning for over three decades. No-one is more experienced.

Talk to Towry Law *for independent financial advice*

A FIMBRA MEMBER

Towry Law Financial Planning Ltd. FREEPOST, Newbury RG13 1BR.
Please send me your new guide on Financial Independence and Security in Retirement with "do's" and "don'ts".

Age Self _____ Spouse _____
I am retired .... ☐
I am retiring at age _____
I would like a financial review .. ☐
Name _____
Address _____
T2399/59N
Postcode _____
Tel: _____

For written details PHONE FREE ON
0800 52 11 96

For information office hours only (telephone: Wind-or 0753 850244, London 071-265 1355, Edinburgh 031-228 2244, Glasgow 041-204 2055, Leeds 0532 449011, Belfast 0232 237121 or Birmingham 021-454 1544.

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c:						
Typical	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	3.79	3.79	3.03	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3.80	3.80	3.04	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	3.00	3.00	2.40	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	3.38	3.38	2.70	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	3.84	3.84	3.07	10,000-100,000	1 mth	0742 528955
" " "	3.89	3.89	3.11	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 528955
NatWest	3.45	3.45	2.75	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	3.45	3.45	2.75	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	3.48	3.48	2.78	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	0.38	0.38	0.30	500‡	none	071 626 6543
Citibank	5.40	5.54	4.43	2,000‡	none	0800 555664
Lloyds HICA	0.38	0.38	0.30	10,000	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	1.50	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	0742 528955
NatWest Special Reserve	1.13	1.13	0.90	500‡	none	0800 200 400
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	1.50	1.51	1.21	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank HICA	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,000‡	none	071-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	0.75	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
Britannia	5.29	5.29	4.23	10,000 min	Postal	——
Britannia	5.44	5.44	4.35	25,000 min	Postal	——
Northern Rock	5.29	5.29	4.23	50,000 min	30 day	——
Cheltenham & Gl	5.41	5.41	5.13	100,000 min	90 day	——
Leeds Permnt	5.81	5.81	4.65	100,000 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
North of England	5.63	5.63	4.50	25,000 min	Postal	——
Hanley Economic	5.44	5.44	4.35	50,000 min	30 day	——
Mansden	6.00	6.00	4.80	50,000 min	60 day	——
Scarborough	6.26	6.26	5.01	50,000 min	90 day	——
Universal	6.45	6.45	5.16	50,000 min	1 year	——
NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c†	3.75	2.81	2.25	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	6.25	4.69	3.75	20-25,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	7.00	5.25	4.20	2,000-250,000	3 mth	0253 66151
6th Index Linkt*	3.25	3.25	3.25	100-10,000	8 day	091-386-4900
40th Issue Cert*	5.75	5.75	5.75	100-10,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plant	5.75	5.75	5.75	20-400/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.85	7.85	7.85	25-1,000		
Gen Ext Relief	3.75	3.75	3.75			
Capital Bond*	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8 days	041-649-4555
FIRST Option Bond	4.76	4.76	3.81	250,000		
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
General Portfolio	5.10	5.10	4.34	20,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Prosperity	5.55	5.55	4.72	25,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Consolidated Life	6.00	6.00	5.10	2,000 min	3 yrs	Vero
Financial Assurance	6.35	6.35	5.40	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5788
General Portfolio	6.60	6.60	5.61	50,000 min	5 yrs	for details

RATES		HOLIDAY RATES	£ buys
RPI (Feb 92-93)	+1.8%	Spanish Pesetas:	166.50
Bank Base Rate	6%	French Francs:	8.00
Personal Loan	28%	Greek Drachmas:	320.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2295.00

TESSA	CAR (%)	£3,000 val 1 year on	Transfer penalty	Minimum investmt	Telephone number
Allied Trust	8.10	£3,243.00	£25+2mths notice	£9,000	071 2839111
Darlington	8.00	£3,240.00	28 days loss intst	£1	0325 487171
Dunfermline	8.00	£3,240.00	1mths notice+loss	£3,000	0383 721921
St Pancras	8.00	£3,240.00	£25+30days notice	£10	071 7942301
Nat Counties	7.90	£3,237.00	90 Days loss	£3,000	0372 742211

† 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less * Additional holdings up to £20,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates †Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums ‡Guaranteed over the rate of inflation

STILL PAYING BUSINESS BANK CHARGES?

5·50% P.A. GROSS WITH A CHEQUE BOOK FOR INSTANT ACCESS

Cut out bank charges and earn good interest with a High Interest Bank Account for Business. Free banking is possible, subject to the account's terms and conditions. *Minimum initial deposit* only £2,001. Call 071-626 0879 (answerphone) for full details.

Interest paid to companies gross, to sole traders and partnerships net of basic rate tax. Interest rates may vary. No interest is paid on deposits of £2,000 and below. Allied Trust Bank, 97-101 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AD.

ALLIED TRUST BANK

LETTERS

Insurance sector needs investigation

From Mr Terry Parradine
I am writing to highlight my situation, and possibly many others who are at the mercy of large insurance companies when awaiting insurance pay settlements. I hope that you will find the issue important enough to print my letter.

Each year, ordinary members of the public pay out vast amounts of money for "insurance protection". They pay to ensure against loss due to accident, the payments are to be made swiftly and on the due date or insurance cover will be waived.

How is it, then, that the same insurance companies find it necessary to subject their clients to delay indifference and, in fact, contempt when it comes to settling a claim.

I have been waiting nearly eight months for settlement from the Norwich Union insurance company. I was involved, through no fault of my own, in a road traffic accident, my car was written off, my wife injured and my baby daughter suffered complications from shock. I have had to find the finances to replace my car and its contents, and the only thing I have received from the Norwich Union to date is unreasonable treatment.

These insurance groups have a duty to the clients who pay for their protection, how can they be allowed to manipulate the public in this way. I feel the time has come for an in depth investigation of the insurance sector, their services and their methods.

Yours sincerely,
TERRY PARRADINE,
25 Beatty Gardens,
Braintree,
Essex.

Looking ahead on funding for students in higher education

From Ms Laura Lassman
Dear Sir, Your article, "Students caught in poverty trap" (March 20) in which you mention our *Going It Alone* material, raises several issues — *aside from the responsibility* of government to provide adequate funding.

1. Students and parents need to negotiate the details of the *parental* contribution. Many parents are, no doubt, making sacrifices in order to fund their children and many students believe their parents are being obstructive.

By discussing the arrangements in advance, much of the emotional heat can be taken out of the situation in order to balance the needs of the student with parental finances. For example, is it feasible to pay the contribution by monthly standing order? Can parents attach strings to their contribution?

2. Managing debt can be a nightmare for students and many parents will want to help. Parents need to consider how best to do this, and looking at case studies can be helpful.

3. In the current climate, students and their parents need to make financial plans for *higher* education long before grant applications are submitted.

Many parents are probably unaware of the demands that may be made of them until it is too late.

We raised the first two issues when developing the leaflet *Paying Their Way* for IFAP, *but they* were felt to be outside their remit. Perhaps *The Times* would be interested in bringing them to the attention of parents and students.

Yours sincerely,
LAURA LASSMAN,
Doublestruck Limited,
6 Argyle Road,
N12.

Red letter day for bank managers on charges for 'overdrafts'

From Mr John Bernas
Sir, My wife and I have a joint account with a branch of Lloyds Bank, in Bristol.

The account is years old and is *never* overdrawn (average credit approx £300). As a result of poor banking practice (rather than customer-oriented practice!), the account was made overdrawn by Lloyds on March 2 — plus they wrote to advise of £15 in charges (£5 for overdrawing and £10 for writing).

On the 27th monthly, we have *two standing orders from* individual accounts to credit the joint account. When the 27th is a weekend or holiday, the orders are paid on the next working day. My order is from another Lloyds account and credited immediately, my wife's is from the Midland and not credited until two-plus days later.

This year, February 27 was a Saturday. There being no Monday, February 29/Tuesday 30/ Wednesday 31, my wife's transfer was made by her bank on March 1. Had Lloyds credited the money on March 1 or even March 2, *there'd be no problem*. Payment of a direct debit on March 2 for our mortgage interest meant that the account became "overdrawn" by £96.51.

Any customer with credits on 27th/28th/29th/30th to *cater for debits on 1st/2nd* was a potential victim of the way



banks credit payments to their customers' accounts. I imagine bank managers all over the country looked forward to the last working day of February 1993 being the 26th with glee?

I have three accounts with Lloyds. I assume they do not wish me to close the accounts. They appear to care little for us or the money we lend to them however; and as well as the £15, will charge interest on the overdraft (*at 26.8 per cent* APR). I am now slightly the wiser — and slightly embarrassed, in view of my occupation!

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BERNAS,
Bernas Coni Warren,
Personal Tax, Strategic & Financial Planning,
7 School Close,
Whitchurch, Bristol.

☐ *Lloyds Bank said that standing orders had a clearing time not dissimilar to cheques and take about three days to be credited.*

All in a name

From Mr Ray Ward
Sir, I recently received a cheque mistakenly made out to P. Ward. Before paying it into my account by means of a machine I half-jokingly asked a member of staff if there might be any problem. I was amazed to be told I should sign it "P. Ward" on the back! I refused on the grounds that *that isn't my name, and she* settled for writing a note on bank stationery saying it had been made out in error and then having me sign it and enclose it in the paying-in envelope. (Since the envelopes bear a note that cheques paid *in by that means must* be payable to the person named on the paying-in slip it would seem that, by the strictest interpretation, even signing as the *non-existent* P. Ward would not validate it.)

The cheque was credited to *my account without query*, perhaps helped by its bearing my address, so the bank could check that it corresponded with their records and that they had no account in the name of P. Ward at that address. It seems absurd that, *because of the kind of simple* clerical error which must happen very frequently, one should be asked to masquerade as a non-existent person!

Yours faithfully,
RAY WARD,
7 Saunders Road,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire.

Barclays has launched a fixed rate mortgage to the turn of the century at 8.5 per cent. This is an annual percentage rate of 8.9 per cent. It is also extending its 7.99 per cent fix to January 1998. There is a booking fee of £100 and an arrangement fee of £150.

☐ Cheltenham & Gloucester offers a five-year fixed mortgage at 7.95 per cent (APR 8.4 per cent) for those with a minimum of 10 per cent as deposit. The fee is £250.

☐ *First-time buyers* can borrow at 6.25 per cent (APR 8.2 per cent) until November next year or at 7.25 per cent (APR 8.3 per cent) until May 1996 from Abbey National. Both include free unemployment cover for a year. Buildings and contents insurance is required. Second-time borrowers can borrow at 6.85 per cent (APR *8.2 per cent) until November* next year or 7.5 per cent (APR 8.3 per cent) until May 1996. The booking fee is £250.

☐ TSB is offering a one-year first-time buyer fixed-rate loan at 5.75 per cent. Borrowers *must have a TSB Homebuyers* Plan, TSB Property Plus insurance and pay an arrangement fee of £195.

☐ At National Westminster, there is a 1 per cent discount on loans up to £60,000 and 1.5 per cent on mortgages over £120,000 for six months for new customers applying *for variable rate mortgages* before July 30.

☐ Northern Rock is offering a two-year fixed rate at 6.25 per cent and a three-year fix at 6.75 per cent. It also has a four-year fix at 7.49 per cent. There is a £200 fee for two years and £225 for three years.

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Dull end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 15. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day March 29. Settlement day April 5. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Maunders (J)	Building,Rds	
2	Sheriff Hldgs	Building,Rds	
3	Polypipe	Industrial	
4	Whitbread 'A'	Breweries	
5	Takeda Chem	Industrial	
6	Critchley	Electrical	
7	King Shaxson	Banks,Disc	
8	GWR Gp	Leisure	
9	Sth Staffs	Water	
10	Hutch Whamp	Business Serv	
11	News Corp	Newspapr,Pub	
12	Cable Wireless	Electrical	
13	Wickes	Drapery,Strs	
14	Sthn Water	Water	
15	Wessex Water	Water	
16	Shield	Property	
17	Helical Bar	Property	
18	Norcros	Industrial	
19	Betterware	Drapery,Strs	
20	Britannic	Insurance	
21	Deelkraal	Mining	
22	LBMS	Electrical	
23	Northumbrian	Water	
24	Telemetrix	Electrical	
25	Bluebird Toys	Industrial	
26	Glynwed	Industrial	
27	Seacon	Transport	
28	Lamont	Textiles	
29	QS Hldgs	Drapery,Strs	
30	Coplex Res	Oils, Gas	
31	Misys	Electrical	
32	Baynes (Charles)	Industrial	
33	E Dagga	Mining	
34	Lloyds	Banks,Disc	
35	Appleyard	Motors,Air	
36	Eng China Cl	Industrial	
37	Nat Aust Bk	Banks,Disc	
38	Courts Furnish	Drapery,Strs	
39	Cater Allen	Banks,Disc	
40	Lincat	Industrial	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd.	Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

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DIVIDEND £2,000

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Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
403	245½	Abbey Ntl	373 †	+6½	11.5	4.1	14.4
238	154	Allied Irish	238 †	+2	...	4.7	–
197½	106	Ans New Z	168	+1	...	5.7	...
3809½	1805½	Bankamerica	3302¼	+18½	...	...	...
239	141	Bk of Ireland	223	...	...	5.1	37.3
345	320	Bk Leumi UK	325 †	...	17.0	7.0	...
140	97	Bank Scotland	131½	+½	4.3	4.4	20.7
464	274	Barclays	412 †	−2	15.1	4.9	–
304	28	Brown Shipley	35	...	...	...	...
469	283	Cater Allen	469	+4	28.0	2.4	...
115	81	Cattles	114	...	...	5.0	...
2450	912½	Chase Manh	2350 †	+12½	...	...	...
2043½	859½	Citicorp	1962¾	...	...	...	...
345	205	Close Bros	343 †	...	...	3.7	15.3
£125¼	8687½	Commerzbk	£119½	−100	...	3.5	...
£304¼	£214	Deutsche Bk	£290½	+25	...	2.2	...
81	11¼	First Nat Fin	58	...	...	...	...
1227	488	Fuji Bank Y	1152	...	...	0.4	61.0
430	230	Gerrard Nat	430	...	21.0	6.5	...
654	226	HSBC	621	+19	19.0	4.2	–
634	213	HSBC HK	599	+12	19.0	4.3	–
356	203	Hambros	325	−9	13.8	5.7	14.3
363	308	Joseph (L)	358	...	15.8	5.8	...
121	54	King Shaxson	121	+1	5.0	5.5	...
395	212	Kleinwort Ben	383	−2	16.0	5.6	–
573	346	Lloyds	509	+5	18.4	4.8	7.3
83	40	Lon Scot Bk	82	...	3.0	4.9	16.3
432	258	Nat Aust Bk	427	+3	...	5.1	15.8
485	251	Nat West	415	−1	...	5.6	20.4
830	418	Provident	820	−7	28.5	4.6	14.2
67	25	Rea Bros	44	...	0.5	1.5	–
261½	137	Ryl Bk Scot	249	+10½	8.8	4.7	...
1975	1043	Schroders	1818	−27	22.0	1.6	–
731	364	Stand Chart	702 †	−8	...	3.8	...
187½	115	TSB	169	...	6.4	5.0	...
200	38	Union Disc	102	+1	...	...	...
646	408	Warburg SG	624	−2	18.0	3.8	18.5
217	137	-do- 6% 'A'	211	−2	...	3.8	...
7625	3087½	Wells Fargo	7237½	+31½	...	1.4	...
183	99	Westpac	143	...	...	5.7	...
253	188	Wintrust	209	...	9.3	5.9	8.1

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
712	526	Allied-Lyons	573	+8	20.0	4.7	13.3
656	472	Bass	545	−4	18.9	4.6	11.9
258	146	Boddington	249 †	−4	7.3	3.9	–
409	243	Bulmer (HP)	402	−1	9.0	3.0	18.5
159	111	Burtonwd Brw	144	...	4.4	4.1	10.5
293	194	Devenish (JA)	285	−1	7.8	3.7	16.1
107	68	Eldridge P 'A'	88	+1	...	4.9	23.5
86½	47	Fosters Brewing	58	...	...	5.1	7.4
440	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	380	...	...	2.6	14.7
518	360	Grand Met	444	−7	12.3	3.7	14.7
424½	283	Greenalls Grp	410	−1	11.7	3.8	13.6
560	405	Greene King	560	−1	11.6	2.8	14.6
644	440	Guinness	469	+7	...	3.4	16.4
346	230	Hardy Hansn	240	...	7.9	4.4	13.3
145	108	Heavitree	108	...	3.0	3.8	25.0
105	78	-do- 'A' LV	78	...	3.0	5.2	18.7
305	191	Highland Distl	272	+1	6.0	2.9	18.1
3050	2040	Holt J	3038	...	35.0	1.5	21.1
55	21	Hoskins Brew	48	...	...	...	34.6
335	250	Invergordn Dist	269	−4	7.0	3.5	–
220	151	Macallan-Glen	180	+1	0.7	0.6	30.3
620	383	Mrstn Marm 'A'	443	...	8.8	2.6	13.9
720	515	Mansfield	720	...	13.6	2.5	15.5
280	166	Mrstn Thmp	251	...	4.9	2.6	14.7
477	394	Matthew Clark	432	...	15.7	5.0	12.7
351	195	Mrydwn W	273	...	...	3.0	19.7
493	320	Morland	475	...	8.4	2.4	16.9
12	5	Paramount	10½	...	...	2.1	18.6
1020	665	SA Breweries	908	...	...	3.0	–
492	380	Scot & New	459	−1	16.1	4.7	12.5
200	145	Taunton Cider	193	...	...	2.3	18.0
241	148	Vaux Group	235	−1	9.3	5.3	18.2
268	165	Wetherspoon JD	260	−1	...	2.5	20.8
490	347	Whitbread 'A'	463	+2	16.9	4.9	13.0
1436	950	-do- 'B'	950	...	16.9	2.4	28.7
660	510	Wolvrhmptn D	606	−3	11.4	2.5	17.0
545	453	Young 'A'	490	...	14.5	3.9	21.4

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
105	60	Abbey	100	...	...	1.4	36.1
27	9	Albrighton	19	...	...	...	...
128	54	Allen	102	...	...	6.5	10.8
182	53	Amec	80	+2	3.0	5.1	–
22	2¼	Anglia Sec	8½	...	...	...	...
192	85	Ashtead	175	...	4.1	3.1	21.8
151	100	Atwoods	118	−2	5.0	5.7	16.8
238	123	BPB Ind	206	−4	...	4.9	52.4
102	50	Baggeridge Brk	77	...	3.1	5.4	25.0
31	15	Bailey (Ben) Con	29 †	...	0.5	...	...
118	68	Barratt	78½	−6½	1.2	2.1	14.2
138	34	Barratt Devs	121	−5	2.0	2.2	13.4
390	308	Bellway	383	−3	11.5	4.0	22.2
35	14	Bellwinch	23	...	...	...	23.0
377	178½	Berkeley Gp	374	...	...	2.1	2.5
100	45	Ben Bros	62	...	3.3	...	45.7
89	27	Blockleys	46	...	...	...	...
284½	121	Blue Circle	218	−6	11.2	6.8	21.8
280	140½	Boot (Henry)	279	...	...	2.6	15.2
170	62	Breedon PLC	84	...	4.6	7.6	–
132	66	Br Dredging	100	−1	7.4	9.9	13.0
180	42	Brit Fittings	45	...	5.3	...	...
130	60	Bryant	125	+½	4.8	5.0	27.6
80	38	CALA	53	...	2.3	...	...
251	187	CRH	250	+2	...	3.8	–
35	14	Cakebread Rby	33	...	...	...	...
82	19½	Costain	31	...	4.7	...	...
143	51	Countryside	115	...	4.1	4.8	30.4
86	23	Crest Nicholson	61	−2	0.0	...	...
65	14	Cussins	61	...	...	...	...
6	¼	Dunsone	2	...	...	...	...
45	12	Edmond Hldgs	22½	...	0.5	3.0	...
211	132	Epwin	180	...	...	4.9	14.8
54	23	Erith	45	...	2.0	...	...
338	220	Eve Group	335	...	...	3.9	12.1
88	25	Evered Bardon	38	−1	5.6	...	20.5
19	3	Explosure	6	−¼	...	...	...
135	68	Freeman Gp	104	...	...	...	...
79	36	Galliford	38 †	...	4.3	...	15.3
98	79	Gibbs & Dandy	75	...	...	...	...
825	578	Gleeson (MJ)	750	...	12.7	2.3	11.1
114	67	Hewden-Stuart	102	−½	3.1	4.1	21.3
63	28	Hewetson	50	...	2.6	...	49.8
398	128	Heywd Wlm	244	+1	12.5	7.1	...
106	29	Higgs & Hill	63	...	9.0	...	4.6
39	23	How Gp	33	...	2.5	...	11.4
28	10	Howard Hldgs	18	...	0.5	3.7	...
50	36	Ibstock Johnsen	38	...	6.0	...	...
43	14½	Jarvis	18	...	0.5	...	...
247	109	Laing (J)	235	...	9.0	5.2	–
122	35	Ln Clydeside	55	...	4.5	10.9	20.7
28	4½	Lovell (YJ)	19	...	...	...	8.6
305	180	Manders	304 †	−1	9.0	3.9	18.6
146	57	Marley	122	...	4.2	4.7	–
97	47	Marshalls	73	−3	...	9.1	24.4
155	101	Maunders (J)	128	+2	4.9	5.3	11.5
219	78	Mcalpine (A)	150	...	6.5	5.5	27.5
79	19	McCarthy & S	34	...	0.5	6.1	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
675	343	ADT	628	...	...	...	–
248	193	Adam & Harvey	218	...	11.0	6.7	3.4
127	53	Air London	83	...	...	5.6	10.2
63	34	African Lakes	50	...	2.8	5.3	9.5
173	81	Asso Sec	148	−1	5.3	4.9	–
208	80	BET Ord	93	−1	...	9.3	13.6
100	41	BNB Res	75	...	4.9	9.7	–
318	208	BPP	283	−5	8.0	3.8	–
285	178	Barbour Index	274	...	7.2	3.5	20.3
30½	13	Boustead	17	...	0.7	5.5	34.8
236	112	Brit Data Mgt	225 †	...	...	2.4	18.8
14	9	Broadcastle	14	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	58	...	4.0	...	18.5
142	72	CRT Gp	93 †	−1	2.4	3.4	10.7
486	262	Capita Group	485 †	...	6.3	1.7	–
37	19	Carlos Plc	37	+2	0.5	1.8	14.1
220	25½	Chiltern Capital	52½	...	...	...	...
39	22	Christie	31	...	...	...	...
285	180	Chubb Sec	225	+1	...	1.4	30.4
43	18	Comtec	31	...	...	...	...
31	5½	Corp Services	14½	+1	...	...	...
123	48	Dart	77	+1	3.3	5.7	8.7
230	145	Davis Service	229	...	7.9	4.8	–
115	85	EW Pacs	97	...	4.5	5.9	7.2
57	8	Gardiner	16	...	0.6	5.6	–
48	20	Gardner (DC)	34	...	...	...	–
246	163	Hays	234	−2	4.6	2.6	22.9
251	167½	Hogg Robinsn	186	...	6.3	4.5	14.0
143½	43	Holmes Protecn	64	...	...	...	3.8
162	98	Hutch Whamp	149	+1	...	3.2	–
£119	6837½	ISS B DKr	£111	...	...	1.0	15.7
657	375	Inchcape	601	+14	12.5	2.8	25.5
863	561	Johnson Clean	840	...	25.7	4.2	–
18½	2½	Lep	9½	...	...	...	...
244	168	Mitie Gp	215	−1	2.7	1.7	17.7
1187	682	Manpower	1073	−29	...	...	...
44½	32½	Michael Page	44	...	1.8	5.6	–
279	88	Pennant	274	...	...	1.0	69.4
5½	2	Prime People	3½	...	...	...	...
308	68	Provalent Alex	115	...	19.5	22.8	2.4
453	335	RCO	405	...	12.8	4.6	13.9
183	117	REA	117	...	4.0	4.6	...
81	43	Reed Executive	56	+2	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Secs	155	...	...	3.9	15.6
13	4	Rentaminster	4 ♯	...	...	...	...
238	134	Rentokil	214	+1	2.3	1.5	–
273	180	Rolfe & Nolan	273	...	6.2	3.0	18.3
399	234	Salvesen (C)	378	−1	7.0	2.5	20.9
43	25	Scott Pickford	34	...	...	3.1	9.4
206	98	Securiguard	180	...	9.4	7.0	9.5
12	1¼	Select Appt	6	...	...	...	...
968	555	Serco Gp	940 †	−3	14.0	2.0	–
352	132	Shared Cmpt	334	+2	...	2.4	9.0
157	87½	Sketchley	117	...	3.0	3.4	14.2
360	270	Warner Howard	345	...	5.9	2.3	19.5
81	39	Welpac	39	...	0.6	2.1	...
22½	7	Wills Gp	22½	+½	...	0.6	30.8

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
268	162	Allied Colloids	230	−3	3.9	2.3	18.3
759	413	Amersham	749	−2	12.5	2.2	27.8
31½	4½	Anglo Utd	4½	...	0.6	...	...
£101½	7362½	BASF DM	9730	+87½	...	7.1	...
269	201	BTP	255	−1	8.8	4.6	18.6
£119	9050	Bayer DM50	£112½	+8½	...	5.1	...
268	126	Blagden	148 †	...	9.5	8.6	–
165	115	Brent Chems	154	−1	7.4	6.7	–
530	418	Br Bio-Tech	470	...	...	...	...
95	13	Cairn Gp	28	+2½	1.3	6.8	–
179	122	Canning (W)	130	...	7.2	7.7	–
595	371	Courtaulds	552	−1	13.0	3.1	15.0
270½	142	Croda	243	−3	7.5	4.1	18.5
146	76	Doeflex	133	...	4.6	4.7	–
211	152	Ellis & Everard	180	−3	7.0	5.3	16.4
20½	7	Euro Colour	19	...	0.6	4.6	...
281	171	Halstead (J)	280	...	...	2.8	14.4
227	158	Hickson	214	+1	7.8	4.9	13.6
£114½	7537½	Hoechst	£105½	+162½	...	7.5	...
1430	975	ICI	1195 †	−6	55.0	6.1	29.7
688	434	Laporte	656	+16	19.5	4.0	–
328	138	Leigh	206	−1	7.8	5.1	16.8
280	11	MTM	13½	...	1.8	...	2.7
1712½	1100	Norsk Hydro	1700	...	...	1.7	–
420	360	Patterson Zoch	420	...	11.4	3.7	18.0
395	335	-do- 'A'	373	...	11.4	4.1	16.0
301	231	Plysu	264	...	6.0	3.0	17.8
310	130	Porvair	209	−1	5.6	2.3	22.3
13	4½	Sutcliffe Speak	12	−½	...	...	...
475	329	Wardle Storeys	430	+2	16.0	5.0	17.3
480	270	Wolstenhlme R	480	+27	17.0	4.8	–
391	245½	Yorks Chem	382	+1	...	2.7	20.5
306	214	Yule Catto	306	+1	3.4	2.4	18.6

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
382	63	Alexon	99	+1	...	4.0	5.4
109	23	Amber Day	65	+1	3.1	6.4	17.8
317	190	Argos Plc	300	+1	...	3.2	20.3
99	57	Ashley (Laura)	77	−1	0.1	0.2	...
305	180	Asprey	290	...	...	3.2	23.5
340	180	Austin Reed	195	...	8.0	...	56.8
159	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	141	−2	5.7	5.4	13.3
144	74	Bentalls	120	...	3.8	4.3	67.7
288	86	Betterware	288	+3	...	0.6	36.9
34	22	Blacks Leis	24	−1	3.3	...	4.9
371	133	Body Shop	200	+1	1.6	1.1	23.1
15½	3	Brown & Jackson	15½	+½	...	...	...
401	260	Brown (N)	386	−9	6.0	2.1	25.9
84	29	Burton	79½	−½	...	3.4	...
320	126	Cantors	144 †	...	...	2.5	19.3
358	245	Church	318	...	12.5	5.4	–
183	58	Clinton Cards	162	−3	4.2	3.6	–
245	151	Coats Viyella	227	−1	...	4.3	24.4
163	77	Colourvision	90	...	...	...	15.2
458	300	Courts Furnish	458	+2	5.0	1.5	23.0
252	100	Crown Eyes	140	...	...	3.7	6.5
111	65	Dairy Farm Intl	103	...	...	3.7	–
82	27½	Dewhirst (I)	81	...	0.7	1.6	20.2
285	170	Dixons Grp	216	−8	6.0	3.7	25.4
405	320	Dunhill	342	−2	7.7	3.0	11.9
35	12½	ERA Gp	14	...	...	...	...
780	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	400	...	16.0	5.3	8.9
115	39½	Essex Furn	100	...	...	3.7	16.7
258	199	Etam	205	−3	6.6	4.3	18.3
582	340	Fine Art Dev	580	+2½	11.0	2.6	21.5
80	25	Fired Bath Tiles	38	...	...	...	...
500	438	Forminster	458	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
50	5	French Conn	50	...	...	...	...
75	21	Gabicci	42½	+1½	2.0	...	8.5
69	39	Gent SR	53	...	2.0	5.1	15.3
42	18	Goldsmiths Gp	37	+1	1.8	...	...
2650	1800	GUS	2645	...	40.0	2.0	21.1
1728	1319	-do- 'A'	1590	−38	40.0	3.4	12.7
43	30	Hampden Grpe	39	...	2.6	...	–
283	123	Harrstone	134	+1	4.8	4.9	8.2
38	16½	Helene Plc	29½	...	2.0	12.1	–
42	15	Heritage	39	...	...	...	...
55	25	Honeysuckle	51	+1	...	2.6	7.2
166	128	Hse of Lerose	148	...	10.3	0.7	21.4
195	40	Jacques Vert	83	...	2.0	...	...
582	398	Kingfisher	557½	+7½	...	3.3	15.7
74	54½	Leslie Wise Gp	70	...	4.0	7.6	14.4
685	405	Liberty	633	−3	7.2	1.5	43.2
373	162	Lloyds Chem	288 †	−2	3.5	2.5	11.3
152	90½	MFI	125	−3	...	4.0	16.7
380	268	Marks Spencer	339	−8	7.1	2.8	20.6
490	319	Menzies (John)	489	...	10.0	2.8	15.6
150	110	Moss Bros	148	...	5.0	4.5	28.5
167½	57	Next	159½	−2½	0.7	0.6	31.3
85	15	Oliver (G)	23	...	...	...	...
250	110	Oriflame Intl	220	−3	...	5.5	14.5
143	45	Pentos	81	−1	1.5	4.1	–
290	202	QS Hldgs	290	+7	4.7	2.2	22.5
29	7	Ramars Group	18½	−½	2.4	17.3	...
35	10	Rhino Grpe	30	−½	...	...	...
180	110	Sherwood Gp	145	+1	...	2.1	13.9
113	54	Sears	102	+1	...	4.6	28.0
523	357	Smith WH 'A'	402	−8	13.4	4.4	14.2
10	4½	Specialeyes	6½	...	...	...	...
239	87	Storehouse	189	−1	5.0	3.5	...
295	183	T & S Stores	183	−1	5.5	4.5	10.6
107	27	Tie Rack	104	...	0.5	0.6	...
213	132	Time Products	210	−1	7.5	4.8	20.5
100	47	Usher (Frank)	98	+1	...	6.8	7.7
45	23	Vivas	38	...	1.0	3.6	–
65	26	Wensum	39	...	...	...	8.9
104	53	Wickes	103	+2	...	...	45.7
70	28	Wld of Leathers	58	...	...	...	68.3
205	102½	Wyevale	173 †	...	...	3.1	–
7	2½	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	2.7

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
103	45	AB Elect	68	...	...	...	...
197	128	ACT Group	169	...	4.5	3.6	16.6
239	195	Amie	238	...	...	3.9	19.9
160½	6	Acorn Compt	100	−6	...	...	...
480	299	Admiral	444	...	5.4	1.6	18.6
133	94	Alba	131 †	...	4.7	4.8	17.2
73	7	Alphameric	38	+1	...	...	...
44	19	Amstrad	32½	−½	0.4	...	...
141	83	App Holo	105	...	...	...	...
22	12	Arlen	14	...	...	...	...
57½	12	Astec	33	...	...	...	–
292	218	Beales Hunter	287	...	9.2	4.6	14.1
20	1½	Bennett & Fount	5½	...	...	...	...
381	207	BICC	366	−1	19.2	7.3	23.8
575	314	Bick	468	+13	9.2	2.6	18.1
4575	1150	Borland	1525	...	...	...	...
302	208	Bowthorpe	299	+2	6.3	2.0	–
449½	305	BT	430	−½	14.4	4.5	16.0
11	5	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	8	−½	0.1	1.7	...
226	80	Burnfield	139 †	−1	5.7	3.5	–
750	489	Cable Wireless	727	+2	13.2	2.4	22.5
14½	4½	Chloride	13½	...	...	...	...
303	205	Cmll Micro	251	...	...	2.4	16.5
116	62	Compr People	98	...	5.4	...	12.6
151	60½	Cray Elect	153	+1	...	0.5	10.0
326	231	Critchley	326	+1	...	2.5	23.1
506	331	Delta	465	+12	14.0	4.1	–
289	148	Denmans Ele	284	...	...	2.8	–
620	375	Domino	548	−4	7.2	1.8	18.7
66	43	Dowding Mills	54	...	2.5	6.2	17.8
1015	750	Dracke	995	...	...	3.0	28.2
411	233	Electrocompnts	395	−1	7.0	2.4	21.4
523	286	El Data Prc	573	+3	5.1	1.2	15.7
75	28	Electron House	70	...	2.3	4.5	21.3
29½	7	Emess	18½	...	0.1	0.7	–
580	252	Eurotherm	558	−1	8.0	1.9	25.4
128	51	FKI	120	−2	2.3	2.6	23.2
391	227	Farnell Elect	389½	−4½	5.8	2.0	20.8
40	18	Feedback	38	...	...	...	...
16	3½	Ferranti	16½	+½	...	...	...
150	30	First Tech	144	...	...	...	...
170	71	Forward Gp	169	+14	...	2.0	20.3
28½	10	Forward Tech	19	...	...	...	...
314	183	GEC	302½	−5½	9.6	4.2	16.0
227	102	Graseby	177	−1	10.9	8.6	–
57	38	Hilicker	39	...	...	1.7	12.7
466	395	Hoskyns Gp	468	...	2.4	0.7	59.9
135	65	INSTEM	105	−3	...	1.0	...
375	190	Jones Stroud	374	...	8.0	2.9	16.3
21	8	Kembrey	8	...	0.3	8.3	3.1

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
472	273	East Midlands	464	...	17.1	4.9	8.9
484	266	Eastern Elect	475	−1	16.7	4.7	11.8
273½	143	Hydro-Elect	271½	+7½	10.1	4.0	12.1
380	288	London Elect	485	+2	16.8	4.6	9.3
547	324	Manweb	534	−6	18.2	4.6	7.7
515½	287	Midlands Elec	500	−2	17.2	4.6	10.5
545	285	Northern Elect	534	−3	18.5	4.6	7.9
544	298	Norweb	539	+1	17.7	4.5	10.0
256	142	Scottish Power	254	+9½	10.1	4.2	12.0
525	297	Seeboard	513	−5	17.2	4.5	9.3
565	313	Sth Wales	548	−4	19.4	4.7	8.7
520	293	Sth Western	508	−1	17.4	4.6	9.1
491	270	Southern Elect	487	+1	16.6	4.6	9.5
545	331	Yorkshire Elec	537	−3	17.7	4.4	10.0
343	189	National Powr	336	...	9.1	3.6	11.1
349	196	PowerGen	345	+3	...	4.1	10.5

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	28	Aitken Hume	56	...	0.5	...	35.8
72	37½	BWD	72 †	...	...	5.9	12.2
124	23	Baltic Plc	64 †	−1	1.0	2.1	–
453	289	Caledonia	432	−3	14.4	4.4	16.6
1950	1050	Camellia	1500	...	22.0	2.4	12.6
290	283	Candover	250	...	10.2	5.6	–
91	48	Fleinach	63	...	...	...	7.7
241	103	Govett	241 †	+1	...	6.9	6.9
142	97	Ivory Sime	139	...	...	6.1	14.6
8½	3½	LIT	6½	...	...	...	...
165	7½	Lightship	12 ♯	...	...	...	0.6
185	110	Lon Forfaitng	180 †	...	...	6.4	12.7
62	10	Mimakin	55 †	...	...	...	...
10½	1¼	Nat Home Loan	9½	−½	...	...	...
47	24	Newmarket	44	...	...	...	...
260	179	Rathbone Brs	260	...	6.0	3.1	–
22	9½	Rutland Tst	21	...	0.8	5.2	–
330	120	S & U	293	+1	...	3.7	10.5
67	34	Singer & Fried	64	...	2.6	5.6	–
938	575	Sotheby's	900	...	4.6	...	...
99	73	SJP Capital	92	...	3.0	4.3	16.6

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1950	1043½	Amer Express	1887½	+6½	...	...	...
234	149	Electra	214	−4	6.7	4.2	29.2
978	535	Henderson Ad	628	−2	41.0	5.9	20.3
120	50	Invesco MIM	109	...	...	3.7	16.0
223	121	Jardine Stratl	180	...	...	4.4	8.1
196	107½	MAI	182	−1	6.0	4.5	12.9
469	244	MAM	442	+1	11.5	3.5	17.7
795	460	M & G	762	...	20.0	3.5	20.3
183	81	Smith New Crt	182	...	4.5	3.3	7.2
98	57	Sterling Trst	97 ♯	...	...	...	8.5
78	35	Trio Hldgs	68	...	...	5.9	...

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Fund	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373				
Masterrust	111.40	119.10	-0.10	1.13
International	83.00	88.29	+0.41	1.12
Dividend Gth	56.67	60.25	-0.16	4.98
Global Gth Sec	60.50	64.36	-0.02	2.86
Ethical Growth	63.96	68.04	-0.79	2.78
High Inc Equity	150.40	159.90	-1.30	5.32
Worldwide Bond	259.60	275.20†	-2.50	4.54
Gilts Fixed Int	128.90	136.70†	-0.80	6.22
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580. 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	43.63	46.09	-0.20	1.84
European	78.27	82.92†	-0.90	...
European Inc	75.55	80.25†	-0.90	1.67
Exempt	879.00	906.10	-19.50	3.38
Extra Inc	42.02	45.55†	-0.48	5.52
F East Emerg Ec	79.74	85.81	-0.62	0.75
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	367.30	392.60†	-9.00	4.28
Equity Inc	206.50	220.70†	-4.40	4.13
High Yield	231.70	247.60	-4.90	4.20
Balanced	630.60	674.10	-13.30	2.77
American Inc	48.67	52.02	+0.27	3.29
Wld Asset Val	38.13	40.76	-0.39	2.01
Japan	160.20	170.80	+5.60	0.02
Secs of Am	424.10	451.30	+1.40	0.44
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	308.10	327.80	-4.90	2.96
-do- Inc	220.90	235.00	-3.50	2.96
Higher Inc Acc	561.10	597.00	-5.50	4.02
-do- Inc	346.20	368.30	-3.30	4.02
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	174.60	184.40†	-1.70	6.67
-do- Inc	91.53	96.68†	-0.86	6.67
Nth America	257.90	274.40	-5.50	...
Far East	264.10	281.00	+5.40	0.32
Europe	214.30	228.00†	-1.10	1.22
General Inc	415.50	442.10†	-5.40	2.63
-do- Acc	456.20	485.40†	-6.00	2.63
Brit Excell	62.51	66.50	-1.20	2.97
Brit Fndmtls Inc	64.88	69.03†	-0.74	5.23
Brit Fndmtls Acc	83.62	88.96†	-0.97	5.23
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544				
Capital	105.30	112.60†	-0.50	3.12
Euro Gth Inc	111.30	118.00	-0.30	1.03
Extra Inc	104.80	112.10	-0.50	5.28
General	235.30	251.60†	-2.30	3.44
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.97	59.94†	-0.37	8.92
Income	472.20	505.00	-3.10	4.94
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	91.75	97.46	-0.21	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	117.40	126.00	-1.90	...
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	52.06	55.67†	-0.23	7.40
Eastern	170.10	183.30	-1.10	1.70
Equity Income	80.03	85.13	+0.40	6.50
European Gth	226.80	241.30	+0.30	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	150.00	160.20	-1.50	2.00
Exempt	80.96	83.16	-1.03	3.80
German Growth	54.79	58.45	-0.73	0.80
Global Growth	106.80	113.80	+0.10	...
Japan Growth	169.40	181.60	+0.40	...
Japan Sunrise	146.90	156.90	+5.60	...
Portfolio	115.00	122.90†	-0.70	3.40
-do- Acc	205.00	219.30†	-1.20	3.40
UK Growth	77.64	82.59	-0.27	3.10
UK Smaller Cos	78.79	84.26	+0.13	2.00
Select Managers	62.40	66.88	-0.50	2.10
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	102.40	109.51	-1.58	2.39
-do- Inc	93.70	100.31	-1.44	2.39
Global Bond	29.18	30.96	-0.04	5.30
High Yield Acc	51.72	55.32	-0.59	4.12
-do- Inc	37.91	40.55	-0.43	4.12
Smlr Cos Acc	85.66	91.60	+0.37	1.81
-do- Inc	79.21	84.72	+0.35	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	58.71	62.79	+0.02	...
-do- Inc	57.62	61.62†	+0.02	...
Euro Gth Acc	93.88	100.40	-0.36	1.27
-do- Inc	92.59	99.03†	-0.35	1.27
Mngd P folio	34.06	36.43†	-0.28	1.37
Pacific Growth	89.31	95.52	+0.37	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	85.43	91.36	+0.20	1.09
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	117.20	124.90†	-1.80	3.56
Smaller Cos Acc	275.40	294.70	-2.40	...
Smaller Cos Inc	161.30	172.60	-1.40	1.33
High Inc	70.37	75.65†	-0.74	7.29
Income	126.20	135.00	-1.10	4.30
Mngd P folio Inc	91.31	97.25	-0.37	2.14
-do- Acc	172.60	183.80	-0.70	...
North American	104.70	111.50	...	0.20
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	62.81	66.82	-0.14	1.07
-do- Acc	70.81	75.33	-0.16	1.07
Income Fund 5	211.10	224.60	-1.10	4.02
-do- Acc	480.00	510.70	-2.40	4.02
Inv Portfolio	66.40	68.81	-0.65	1.93
-do- Acc	74.99	77.71	-0.72	1.93
Smaller Cos	120.10	127.80	-0.10	2.00
-do- Acc	144.20	153.50	-0.20	2.00
High Inc P folio	59.11	61.26	-0.51	4.63
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	133.30	141.80	-1.00	1.73
UK Growth	144.10	153.40†	-1.00	2.31
UK Income	123.70	131.60	-1.00	4.45
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	79.60	85.13†	+1.11	1.09
Growth	43.98	47.04	-0.84	3.04
Income	52.96	56.64	-0.59	4.28
Far East	43.77	46.81	+0.73	0.17
North American	80.49	86.55	-1.48	0.01
Global	80.47	86.06†	-0.31	0.70
European	67.26	71.94†	-0.73	1.30
Japan	96.68	103.40	+2.00	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	58.83	63.24	-0.59	5.14
UK Cap Gwth	77.24	82.61†	-1.48	2.05
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	131.00	139.40†	-0.80	0.20
-do- Acc	139.40	148.30	-1.00	0.20
European	65.22	69.04	+0.04	1.09
-do- Acc	67.61	71.56	+0.05	1.09
Far East Gen	54.95	58.46†	+1.36	...
-do- Acc	54.95	58.46	+1.36	...
Glentrust	245.40	261.30†	-3.50	1.01
-do- Acc	278.50	296.20	-3.90	1.01
Growth	371.00	396.80†	-4.40	2.58
-do- Acc	635.10	679.30	-7.60	2.58
Income Growth	368.30	391.90	-3.80	4.03
-do- Acc	489.70	521.00	-5.10	4.03
Master Portfolio	9298.0	9618.0	-63.00	2.70
-do- Acc	10709.0	11078.0	-72.00	2.70
Special Sits	84.52	89.92	-0.90	2.55
-do- Acc	98.90	105.22	-1.06	2.55
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1196.0	1233.0	-11.00	4.49
-do- Acc	1385.0	1428.0	-13.00	4.49
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	194.30	206.90†	+0.10	1.47
Capital	526.00	561.30	-6.10	2.37
Eurotrack 100	127.60	135.70†	+0.20	1.53
Euro Gth	79.11	84.23	+0.09	1.38
Far East Growth	82.74	88.30	+0.55	0.15
Global Bond	23.35	24.62	-0.01	5.81
Hong Kong	71.83	76.65†	-3.03	0.59
Income	504.60	538.50	-6.90	4.47
Intl Growth	72.18	77.03	-0.43	0.99
Japan Growth	230.80	246.30	+6.50	...
Japan Smllr Cos	28.51	30.42†	+0.62	...
Japan Index	68.06	72.63†	+0.89	0.34
Nth American	424.70	453.20	+1.50	0.95
S pore Mly Gth	48.94	52.22	+0.72	...
The Footsie Fd	106.80	112.70	-1.50	2.61
Tiger Index	132.10	140.90	-0.10	0.71
UK Index	121.50	129.60	-1.80	3.00
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	83.51	89.29	+0.06	1.00
European P folio	71.80	76.23	+0.34	1.38
Japanese P folio	55.58	59.05	+0.79	...
Pacific P folio	92.75	99.74	+0.25	2.43
Cazenove P folio	69.04	73.85	-0.62	3.00
UK Income Gth	62.67	67.20	-0.49	5.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	604.15	609.40	...	4.74
Fixed Int	155.70	156.45	...	9.27
Deposit	6.00	...	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	596.47	600.35	...	4.98
-do- Acc	2297.9	2316.6	...	...
Deposit	5.40	...	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	127.15	127.21	...	9.12
-do- Acc	166.55	166.88	...	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	63.47	66.81	+1.29	2.42
Beckman Ind	82.13	86.67	-0.55	3.27
Friars Hse Inc	178.37	191.80	-0.54	6.48
Friars Hse Cap	248.89	267.62	-3.44	2.90
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR9 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	107.19	114.03	-1.65	0.04
European Gth	92.98	98.91	-0.32	1.14
Far East Gth	96.42	102.57	+0.95	0.52
Japan Gth Acc	36.04	38.34	+0.88	...
Managed	60.92	64.80	-0.30	3.01
-do- Acc	73.56	78.26	-0.36	3.01
Mthly Inc Plus	46.75	49.73†	-0.62	8.73
Smaller Cos	32.79	34.88†	-1.66	2.30
-do- Acc	36.94	39.30	-1.88	2.30
UK General	67.53	71.84	-0.75	2.79
-do- Acc	80.96	86.13	-0.80	2.79
Wwide Bd	62.64	66.57†	-0.52	6.42
-do- Acc	80.98	85.63	-0.66	6.42
Wwide Sp Sits	54.05	57.81	+0.21	0.21
-do- Acc	56.31	60.22	+0.21	0.21
Quilter General	118.55	126.12	-1.98	2.78
-do- Acc	131.72	140.13	-2.20	2.78
Quilter Income	91.46	97.30†	-1.55	4.60
-do- Acc	112.72	119.91	-1.92	4.60
Quilter Intl	124.81	132.78	-0.23	0.66
-do- Acc	126.54	134.62	-0.23	0.66
Quilter UK Spec	68.20	72.55	-0.89	2.51
-do- Acc	90.23	95.99	-1.16	2.51
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	74.80	79.57	-0.20	1.00
Japanese Acc	53.24	56.64	+1.03	...
UK Balncd Inc	125.10	133.10	-0.10	2.50
-do- Acc	146.10	155.40	-0.10	2.50
UK Growth Acc	204.90	218.00	-1.50	2.21
UK High Inc	134.30	142.90	-0.30	6.65
-do- Acc	158.60	168.70	-0.30	6.65
N America Acc	113.30	120.50	-1.00	0.32
European Acc	149.80	159.40	-1.40	0.44
UK Pref F/I Inc	60.28	63.97	-0.49	8.83
-do- Acc	97.29	103.20	-0.80	8.83
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Dunedin House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	113.40	120.40	+0.70	...
UK Smlr Cos	184.90	196.50	+0.80	1.27
Eurofund	37.23	39.39	-0.08	1.02
Mngd Exempt	165.00	172.00	-2.30	3.05
Growth Inc	209.60	222.70†	-4.00	4.04
High Dist	136.80	145.40	-2.90	5.95
International	313.60	333.20	-1.40	0.98
Intl Income	80.14	85.55†	-0.13	3.04
Pacific	54.74	58.16	-0.77	0.52
Smllr Jap Cos	58.14	61.77	+0.43	...
Tokyo	177.10	188.20	+3.00	...
Japan Exempt	97.64	100.90	-1.00	0.50
Sm Jap Exempt	478.90	492.00	-9.90	0.10
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	168.50	179.20	-1.70	1.12
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	104.51	110.01	-2.03	3.52
High Income	119.79	126.09	-1.85	5.06
Tst of Inv Tsts	138.87	146.18	-1.81	2.19
Special Sits	83.29	87.67	-2.41	3.07
North American	105.90	111.47	+0.04	1.06
Far Eastern	218.84	230.36	+3.48	1.58
Intl Growth	90.30	95.05†	-0.85	1.55
European	63.11	66.43	-0.07	2.26
Smaller Cos	70.07	73.76	-0.89	2.36
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	218.40	231.80	-1.90	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	5.90
European Tst	111.40	118.50	+0.30	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	92.07	97.44	-0.39	0.88
Far Eastern	124.80	133.10	+4.00	...
Ocean Income	89.39	95.89	-0.51	2.74
UK Growth	90.72	97.03	-0.92	1.34
UK Income	100.80	107.80	-3.00	3.86
US Smaller Cos	234.90	251.20	-2.10	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	415.10	443.90	-6.60	...
-do- Acc	424.00	453.40	-6.80	...
Capital	280.50	298.30	-2.30	2.14
-do- Acc	390.70	415.50	-3.10	2.14
Conti Smllr Cos	46.37	49.94	+0.47	1.11
-do- Acc	47.98	51.67	+0.49	1.11
Convertible	109.90	116.90	-1.00	6.49
-do- Acc	203.40	216.30	-2.00	6.49
European	95.90	102.40	-0.10	1.15
-do- Acc	99.10	105.80	-0.10	1.15
Extra Income	286.60	304.80	-2.10	4.39
-do- Acc	401.30	426.80	-3.10	4.39
Financial	104.60	112.70	-1.60	0.83
-do- Acc	108.90	117.30	-1.70	0.83
Health Fund Inc	105.30	112.40	-4.30	...
-do- Acc	105.30	112.40	-4.30	...
Income Tst	176.50	187.70	-1.10	4.06
-do- Acc	246.10	261.70	-1.30	4.05
Intl Growth	300.30	320.60	-2.00	...
-do- Acc	333.50	356.00	-2.30	...
Japan Gen	149.90	160.60	+3.00	...
-do- Acc	151.40	162.30	+3.20	...
Mngd P folio Inc	89.62	94.33	-0.66	1.06
-do- Acc	92.54	97.41	-0.68	1.06
Monthly Income	145.50	154.70	-0.70	4.55
Recovery	285.70	305.50	-2.10	0.88
-do- Acc	334.70	357.90	-2.40	0.88
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	345.26	367.30	-3.31	3.03
-do- Acc	697.11	741.61	-6.70	3.03
Euro Gth Dist	103.16	109.75†	-0.75	1.03
-do- Acc	106.25	113.03†	-0.76	1.03
Fixed Int Dist	129.62	137.11†	-2.05	6.51
-do- Acc	217.74	230.31†	-3.44	6.51
Intl Gth Dist	73.88	78.60	-0.06	0.84
-do- Acc	76.43	81.31	-0.06	0.84
Nth Amer Dist	170.59	180.73	+0.01	0.75
-do- Acc	185.00	196.00	+0.01	0.75
Pac Basin Dist	224.12	238.43	-0.35	0.37
-do- Acc	227.66	242.19	-0.36	0.37
Stewardship Dist	296.30	315.21	-0.53	1.97
-do- Acc	350.54	372.91	-0.64	1.97
Stwd Inc Dist	61.74	65.68†	+0.01	3.88
-do- Acc	75.65	80.48†	-0.01	3.88
N Am Stwd Dist	100.39	106.80	-0.93	...
-do- Acc	106.20	112.98	-0.98	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	137.20	146.80	-2.10	...
European	388.90	412.20†	-1.40	1.03
Far East General	195.50	208.90	-1.20	0.34
Germany	98.08	103.80	-1.90	0.44
Global Assets In	65.49	69.92	-0.25	2.31
Global Assets Ac	68.63	73.26	-0.26	2.28
Income Inc	108.60	116.20†	-1.70	7.57
International	249.10	266.10†	-1.00	1.05
Intl Income	76.59	81.26	-0.08	4.91
Japan General	327.50	347.40	+6.10	...
Smllr Cos Div	45.37	48.53	-0.17	6.26
UK Capital Inc	153.30	164.00	-1.60	4.07
-do- Acc	262.30	280.60	-2.70	4.00
UK Spec Sits	69.28	74.10	-1.28	1.72
US General	111.90	119.10	-1.20	0.11
W'wide Spec Sits	110.70	118.40	-0.80	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	42.52	45.48†	-0.83	1.28
Cash Trust*	127.85	127.85	+0.09	5.32
Pract Inv Inc	99.65	106.86†	-1.23	4.17
-do- Acc	213.92	229.40†	-2.62	4.17
UK Smaller Cos	94.83	101.69	-2.40	1.59
Income Funds				
Preference Share	25.43	27.20	+0.43	8.13
High Inc	30.71	32.84†	-0.20	5.39
UK Equity Inc	127.15	135.99	-0.13	4.03
Global Bond	29.37	30.43†	-0.06	5.65
International Funds				
Gold Intl	68.49	73.45	+2.05	1.59
Frontier Markets	39.50	42.36	-0.17	0.24
Global Inc Gth	118.84	126.89	-0.62	2.28
UK Intl	107.12	114.57	-0.76	0.68
Overseas Funds				
American	129.92	138.51	+0.13	0.58
European	79.66	84.46†	-0.32	0.81
Euro Sel Opps	92.12	98.15†	-0.14	1.30
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526				
Intl Growth	121.43	129.87	+1.47	0.37
American Gth	120.54	128.92	+0.93	...
European Gth	67.59	72.28	-0.12	0.42
German Horizon	46.91	50.01	-0.82	...
Japan Gth	69.02	73.82	+2.38	...
Pacific Inc	125.82	134.56	+0.53	2.85
Pacific Strategy	105.31	112.63	-0.09	0.25
UK Prog Inc	74.94	78.97	+0.34	4.61
Gt British Cos	47.87	50.48	-0.32	2.70
UK Small Cos	43.69	46.72	-1.17	2.12
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 34 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9666				
Cash	130.40	130.40	+0.10	5.04
Gilt Fixed	119.00	126.30†	-1.70	6.52
Growth Equity	281.30	300.50	-0.40	2.11
Guaranteed	416.80	446.60†	-1.60	2.36
Income Trust	106.40	113.60	-0.20	3.45
International	151.50	161.80†	-0.10	0.36
Japan Trust	110.40	117.90	+2.20	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	259.40	277.10	+0.20	0.45
Pacific	346.30	369.90	+4.70	...
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	330.70	353.70	-4.80	0.58
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	34.24	36.39†	-0.24	1.84
-do- Acc	35.83	37.99	-0.26	1.84
Inc Adv Inc	29.14	30.89†	-0.18	4.25
-do- Acc	30.29	32.11	-0.19	4.25
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	71.13	76.20	+0.99	0.96
Equity Income	112.40	119.60†	+0.10	3.55
European	129.90	137.60†	-2.00	0.88
Intl Situation	73.12	77.79	+0.96	...
Japanese	123.90	131.80	+3.40	...
North American	102.00	108.20	-0.70	0.06
Scandinavian	101.20	107.00	-2.30	0.48
Smaller Cos	29.23	31.10	-0.43	2.25
HENDERSON PO Box 2603, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	87.41	93.47	-2.04	...
Asian Enterprise	115.49	124.80	-2.07	0.80
Australian	133.49	142.69†	-1.57	1.45
European	358.19	378.83	-2.13	1.26
European Inc	67.96	71.85†	-0.09	3.12
Euro Smll Co	121.09	128.97	-0.64	0.77
Extra Income	253.26	271.74†	-2.49	5.60
Family of Funds	67.49	72.08	-0.67	1.40
Fixed Interest	55.10	58.52†	-0.50	8.79
Global Resour	87.15	93.55	+1.81	1.11
High Inc	279.88	298.11	-1.02	4.94
Income Gth	232.78	247.90	-3.29	4.02
-do- Acc	585.79	623.86	-8.28	4.02
International	218.52	232.49†	-1.41	1.04
Japan Spc Sit	200.43	213.20	+3.97	...
Japan	174.71	185.69	+3.87	...
N Amer	223.72	237.91	-2.13	0.16
Pacific Smllr Cos	165.00	176.40†	+1.58	0.58
Pref Gth	46.33	50.34	-0.28	8.65
Smaller Cos Div	156.19	170.24	-0.22	4.57
Special Sits	246.98	266.40†	-3.75	1.70
-do- Acc	382.59	409.36†	-5.76	1.70
Best of British	54.76	58.65	-0.96	2.88
Spirit of the East	53.76	57.50†	-0.28	0.96
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	86.54	92.65	-1.02	2.38
Capital	152.30	162.80	-1.20	1.98
Dollar	308.20	329.60	+0.90	0.16
European	188.90	202.00	+0.60	0.55
Far East	222.60	238.00	-1.00	0.62
Financial	640.40	684.90†	+5.00	2.60
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.75	26.75	-0.43	8.02
High Yield	98.37	105.20	-1.40	4.96
Income	131.90	141.00	-1.90	3.91
Intl	206.80	221.10	+0.20	0.36
Japan Tech	61.29	65.55	+3.76	...
Nat Resources	56.18	60.08	+0.80	0.78
Security	289.00	309.00†	-2.50	2.13
Smaller Cos	104.20	111.40	-0.30	1.63
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	23.05	25.32†	+0.10	1.67
Special Features	26.19	27.82†	-0.31	1.65
-do- Acc	30.97	32.90†	-0.36	1.64
General Funds				
UK Growth	51.86	55.57	-0.88	2.38
Assets Earnings	69.36	73.68	-0.37	2.02
do Acc	81.50	86.59	-0.43	2.02
Managed Invest	82.43	88.10†	+0.28	1.35
Ruperi Children	74.22	79.17	-0.67	1.77
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.27	50.27†	+0.04	4.64
Extra Inc	77.41	82.91	-1.13	5.57
Gilt	27.85	29.31	-0.33	7.02
Income Gth	38.04	40.69	-0.38	3.64
MIMstar	76.86	78.66	-0.75	8.55
Preference	17.69	19.37†	-0.11	6.82
UK Income	298.50	319.00†	-3.60	3.43
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	54.57	57.98	-0.54	1.67
Property Shares	57.32	60.90†	-0.37	2.27
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	138.40	145.60	-2.70	4.43
European Acc	108.10	114.70	-0.20	2.08
European Dist	102.90	109.10	-0.30	2.08
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	49.22	52.35†	-0.01	1.06
European Perf	104.70	111.20	-0.10	1.35
-do- Acc	106.70	113.30	-0.10	1.35
Euro Small Cos	20.35	21.87	-0.09	0.82
French Growth	67.93	72.32†	+1.40	0.58
-do- Acc	72.57	77.29	+1.67	0.58
Hong K/China	64.48	69.41	+2.44	1.35
Intl Growth	48.85	51.90	+0.42	0.85
-do- Acc	48.85	51.90	+0.42	0.85
Japan Perf	29.54	31.38	+1.13	...
Accum Units	29.54	31.38	+1.13	...
Japan Smllr Cos	31.29	33.24	+1.33	...
Singapore Asean	68.30	74.00	-0.06	0.60
-do- Acc	68.73	74.65	-0.06	0.60
South East Asia	204.60	220.60†	+1.80	1.00
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	68.94	69.28†	+0.06	5.39
Extra Income	51.11	54.37†	-0.98	7.08
Gilt Yield	118.30	124.90†	-1.20	8.01
Global Income	195.00	207.40†	+1.10	4.12
High Yield	131.30	139.70	-2.30	6.28
Smllr Cos Div	45.41	48.31†	-0.33	4.95
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	89.85	95.58	-0.69	...
North American	76.30	81.17	+0.01	0.43
European	127.50	135.60	+0.50	0.93
Euro Special	75.83	80.67	-0.42	1.03
General	260.80	277.40	-4.10	3.43
Japan	349.90	372.20	+11.50	...
Japanese Special	185.80	197.70†	+5.00	...
Master Acc	211.30	224.70	-1.00	1.47
Pacific	245.10	260.70	+3.40	0.51
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	71.55	76.12	-0.57	0.51
Extra Income	23.59	25.10†	-0.17	3.50
Far East	24.25	25.81†	+0.42	0.99
Income Gwth	71.16	75.70†	-0.39	3.09
Intl Growth	49.67	52.84†	+0.16	0.88
Japan	55.17	58.69	+1.06	...
Maximum Dist*	100.80	102.60	-0.10	7.36
N Amer Equity	40.16	42.72	-0.16	0.48
UK Equity	85.49	90.95	-0.26	3.21
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	52.48	55.83	-0.95	4.76
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	415.10	441.60	-5.90	2.93
Equity Acc	787.90	838.20	-11.30	2.93
Equity Income	89.88	95.62†	-1.30	5.17
European	43.28	46.19†	-0.12	1.22
Far Eastern	164.50	175.00	+0.70	0.33
Fixed Interest	51.04	54.30†	-0.15	7.40
Gilt	91.85	97.40	-1.14	7.01
Global Growth	62.43	66.84	+0.22	0.76
Intl Bond	55.99	59.56†	-0.17	5.14
Japanese	60.52	64.44	+1.32	...
Overseas Equity	91.34	97.06	+0.51	0.81
Pacific Gth	78.70	83.72†	+0.62	1.34
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	312.20	332.30	-3.10	2.99
-do- Acc	676.10	719.30	-6.80	2.99
Conti Euro Gth	50.08	52.72	-0.10	1.36
-do- Acc	52.96	55.75	-0.10	1.36
Extra Inc	237.20	252.40	-2.50	4.07
-do- Acc	577.00	613.90	-6.10	4.07
German Gth	100.70	106.00	-2.30	0.33
-do- Acc	105.60	111.20	-2.30	0.33
Growth Port	478.70	509.00	-2.40	1.86
-do- Acc	478.70	509.00	-2.40	1.86
Income	445.00	473.50	-4.20	3.77
-do- Acc	1128.0	1200.0	-11.00	3.77
Income Port	485.40	515.60	-2.60	5.14
-do- Acc	485.40	515.60	-2.60	5.14
Japan Growth	83.28	88.60	+1.90	0.01
-do- Acc	83.57	88.91	+1.92	0.01
Master Trust	50.94	54.20	-0.43	1.67
-do- Acc	55.41	58.95	-0.46	1.67
N American Gen	182.40	194.10	-3.00	0.01
-do- Acc	210.70	224.20	-3.40	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	130.40	138.80	-3.30	0.01
-do- Acc	133.10	141.60	-3.30	0.01
Pacific Basin	191.60	203.90	-1.50	0.68
-do- Acc	202.50	215.50	-1.50	0.68
Small Cos Rec	302.00	317.90	+8.60	2.39
-do- Acc	389.30	410.10	+11.10	2.39
UK Growth	77.61	82.57	-0.30	2.30
-do- Acc	90.50	96.28	+0.35	2.30
Worldwide Gth	269.50	286.80	+1.40	0.29
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	76.46	82.04	-0.46	3.00
Income	58.17	62.41†	-0.44	6.10
International	54.57	58.55	...	0.80
American	59.71	64.07	-0.40	0.30
Japan	44.76	48.03	+1.20	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	52.88	56.74	-0.78	2.00
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	390.60	412.30	-0.50	0.95
-do- Acc	481.90	508.70	-0.60	0.95
American Rec	418.20	439.10	+3.00	0.37
-do- Acc	475.10	502.40	+3.50	0.37
Am Sm Co Acc	115.50	122.50	-3.40	0.05
Australia Acc	142.90	151.20	-0.30	1.51
Capital	619.30	654.90†	+1.80	3.14
-do- Acc	683.30	722.60	+2.00	3.14
Commodity Acc	395.80	418.60	+13.10	1.15
Compnd Gth	800.50	846.50	-3.40	3.06
Dividend	33.60	36.00	-0.20	4.73
-do- Acc	130.80	140.30	-0.70	4.73
Equity Inc	279.10	295.10†	-4.80	5.47
European Div	56.60	60.30	+0.10	4.86
-do- Acc	63.90	68.10	+0.10	4.86
European Gen	371.30	392.70	-0.90	1.80
-do- Acc	463.80	490.60	-1.10	1.80
Extra Yield	350.80	375.40†	-2.90	4.83
-do- Acc	1025.8	1097.8	-8.50	4.83
Far Eastern	266.10	280.30†	+3.60	1.31
-do- Acc	348.70	368.70	+4.70	1.31
Fund of Inv	477.20	504.60	-5.80	2.53
-do- Acc	861.20	910.60	-10.40	2.53
General	52.30	55.30	-0.20	3.82
-do- Acc	137.70	145.70	-0.60	3.82
Gilt Fxd Int	61.60	61.80†	-0.90	8.25
do Acc	152.70	152.80	-2.20	8.25
Gold	40.50	42.80	+2.20	1.66
-do- Acc	47.40	50.10	+2.60	1.66
High Inc	24.00	25.40	-0.10	5.00
-do- Acc	88.80	94.00	-0.60	5.00
Intl Growth	65.80	69.70	+0.10	1.15
-do- Acc	113.40	120.20	+0.20	1.15
Intl Inc	90.40	95.60	+0.40	5.09
Japan Gen Acc	44.10	46.60	+0.70	...
Japan Smllr Cos	124.20	131.40	+2.10	...
Midland	50.70	53.60	-0.20	4.33
-do- Acc	160.40	169.50	-0.70	4.33
Recovery	34.60	37.00	-0.10	3.37
-do- Acc	54.40	58.10	-0.20	3.37
Second Gen	58.60	62.20	-0.10	3.91
-do- Acc	143.90	152.30	-0.20	3.91
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QG. 0244 686666				
Inv Port Inc	131.90	141.00†	-0.90	2.43
-do- Acc	146.50	156.60†	-1.00	2.43
UK Income	109.20	116.80†	-1.50	3.01
-do- Acc	121.80	130.30†	-1.60	3.01
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EH. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	74.50	79.67†	+0.37	0.64
Far East (Pacific)	124.80	132.40	+2.30	0.72
Income Growth	71.08	75.45†	+0.64	3.96
European	64.27	68.22†	-0.17	1.36
Nth American	57.46	61.21	...	1.08
UK Growth	75.69	80.35	+0.10	1.37
Intl Growth	88.40	93.84	+0.79	0.09
Charities	107.20	113.60†	+0.40	4.06
Intl Income	66.22	70.29†	+0.45	3.94
Japan	44.70	47.45†	+0.69	0.09
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860				
American	190.30	202.00	-0.70	...
-do- Acc	203.40	215.80	-0.80	...
Cash	100.90	100.90	+0.10	5.81
-do- Acc	128.40	128.40	+0.10	5.81
European Gth	187.80	199.20	-2.50	0.34
-do- Acc	201.00	213.20	-1.30	0.34
General	447.90	476.80†	-4.80	2.73
-do- Acc	850.50	907.30†	-9.00	2.73
Global Dist	130.80	137.50	-1.30	5.66
-do- Acc	146.40	153.90	-1.50	5.66
Income	134.50	143.50†	-0.50	5.07
-do- Acc	196.90	210.10†	-1.30	5.07
International	369.00	392.90	-0.50	0.95
-do- Acc	489.40	521.10	-0.70	0.95
Japan	156.50	166.10	+2.60	...
-do- Acc	160.70	170.50	+2.50	...
New Europe	130.60	138.40†	-0.50	1.43
-do- Acc	132.80	141.70†	-0.50	1.43
Recovery	285.20	304.30	-1.80	2.31
-do- Acc	356.50	380.30	-2.30	2.31
European Inc	72.89	77.20	-0.67	3.04
-do- Acc	92.47	97.94	-0.89	3.04
Brit Blue Chip	70.09	74.75	-1.06	3.49
-do- Acc	82.87	88.14	-0.62	3.49
Portfolio	71.69	76.25	-0.61	3.14
-do- Acc	81.52	86.70	-0.69	3.14
Gold General	73.53	78.44	+5.86	3.09
-do- Acc	74.54	79.51	+5.93	3.09
Pacific	83.64	89.22	+0.38	0.56
-do- Acc	88.42	94.32	+0.42	0.56
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 529 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 876				
Balanced Dist	56.81	60.76	-0.25	3.30
-do- Acc	56.81	60.76	-0.25	3.30
British Dist	74.74	79.94†	-0.95	2.43
-do- Acc	84.60	90.48	-1.08	2.43
European Gth	162.80	173.80	-0.80	0.16
-do- Acc	204.40	218.20	-1.00	0.16
Extra High Inc	67.57	72.27	-0.61	6.64
-do- Acc	117.40	125.60	-1.10	6.64
FT-SE 100 Index	47.45	50.75	-0.59	2.95
-do- Acc	47.45	50.75	-0.59	2.95
Gilt Fixed Int	56.06	58.38†	-0.48	7.05
-do- Acc	147.50	153.50	-1.20	7.05
High Yield	213.50	228.30	-1.60	5.14
-do- Acc	490.50	524.00	-3.60	5.14
Income	271.10	289.90	-2.30	3.84
-do- Acc	563.40	602.60	-5.20	3.84
Japan Gth	291.40	311.70†	+6.60	...
-do- Acc	307.60	329.00	+6.90	...
Mandarin Acc	91.45	97.81	+0.13	1.67
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	259.80	276.80	-1.30	0.45
Deposit Inc	100.10	100.10	+0.06	5.42
Deposit Acc	121.65	121.65	+0.06	5.42
Euro Gth Acc	252.30	269.10†	-2.90	...
Europa	116.00	126.40†	-1.00	...
Intl Gth	161.20	172.10	-0.20	...
Japan Tracker	64.89	69.24	+0.44	...
UK Equity Inc	144.40	155.30	-0.20	5.06
-do- Acc	173.90	187.00	-0.20	5.06
UK Ind Tracker	139.60	149.30†	-0.70	3.53
US Sq Ind Trkr	193.90	205.50†	-0.70	1.29
-do- Acc	205.00	217.40†	-0.70	1.29
Asian Trader	140.50	152.50	+1.50	1.04
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G1 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	172.50	176.40†	+0.20	2.40
European	59.77	61.01	-0.22	1.21
Olympiad	52.17	55.52†	+0.12	0.51
Global Bond	47.80	48.34†	-0.24	6.81
Smaller Cos	61.38	64.15	-0.18	1.59
Equity Income	91.16	93.75†	-0.60	4.50
UK Growth	80.68	83.27	-0.94	2.04
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730				
American Acc	47.72	50.90	-0.49	0.83
Australian Acc	294.70	316.20	-1.90	...
Conscience	61.59	65.73	-0.96	1.54
-do- Acc	66.14	70.58	-1.03	1.54
European	166.80	177.80	+0.80	1.16
-do- Acc	177.90	189.70	+0.80	1.16
Extra Income	71.26	76.05	-0.52	6.22
-do- Acc	107.40	114.60	-0.80	6.22
Far East Gth	146	156	+2.10	0.06
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.86	61.04	-0.67	7.55
Gold	31.80	33.97	+1.20	...
-do- Acc	34.03	36.59	+1.39	...
Income	50.94	54.33	-0.51	5.52
-do- Acc	152.70	163.80	-1.60	5.52
International	28.22	30.27	+0.04	1.19
-do- Acc	40.55	43.50	+0.06	1.19
Jap Sm Cos Acc	269.20	287.10	+8.60	...
S pore Mly Acc	151.40	162.30	-0.30	...
Smllr Cos Acc	23.91	25.70	-0.17	1.98
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	66.11	70.34	-1.10	2.98
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	73.26	77.53†	-0.48	7.05
N&P Higher Inc	184.90	196.20	-0.50	4.93
N&P UK Income	98.62	105.48	-0.84	4.12
N&P Intl	83.30	89.67	-0.67	2.01
N&P Smaller Cos	71.49	76.49†	+0.37	1.77
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	153.97	163.80	-3.70	2.34
Global	260.43	277.06	-5.29	1.29
Growth	102.07	108.59	-1.15	2.50
Income	195.31	207.78	-1.34	4.60
Intl Bond	125.49	133.35	-1.10	8.30
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 560, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 478478. Dealing: 0800 626577				
Growth	136.30	145.40	-1.10	2.60
-do- Acc	236.00	248.40	-1.80	2.60
Income	214.40	228.00	-1.50	3.83
Intl Equity	210.40	224.20	-0.10	1.13
-do- Acc	230.70	245.40	-0.20	1.13
Equity	212.30	225.80	-1.90	2.68
-do- Acc	430.30	457.80	-3.80	2.68
UK Intl 25 Acc	66.89	71.15	-0.56	2.13
UK Income	58.46	62.19	-0.48	3.38
UK Smllr Co Acc	69.26	73.67	+0.26	1.72
New Europe Acc	60.38	64.23	+0.21	1.59
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	82.11	87.82	+0.60	0.45
FEP Gth Inc	94.45	101.02	-0.58	1.34
Intl Gth	446.61	477.66	-0.46	0.76
Income	285.70	305.66	-2.69	3.47
W'wide Recov	278.37	297.73	+0.60	0.67
American Gth	198.39	212.19	+1.52	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	169.52	181.10	+2.21	0.21
Far East Gth	185.28	198.17	+0.64	0.08
European Gth	107.45	114.92	-0.79	1.00
UK Growth	72.33	77.36	-1.00	3.00
High Income	78.72	84.20	-0.87	4.67
Japanese Gth	178.49	190.94	+3.18	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	165.70	176.30	-1.30	0.50
High Income	106.90	113.70	-1.40	5.55
Conv Gilt	108.20	115.10†	-1.20	6.40
Far East	277.20	294.90†	-4.00	0.58
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Seeboos Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	48.44	51.53	-0.51	0.57
Emerging Mkts	60.02	63.85	-0.02	0.23
General	46.75	49.71	-0.56	3.45
International	81.11	86.29	-0.02	1.32
Gilt Units	26.58	27.92†	-0.30	8.08
Global FEP	34.52	36.72	-0.04	2.12
Income Gth	62.40	66.38†	-0.52	5.30
European	41.83	44.50†	-0.02	1.19
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.35	26.67†	-0.26	8.18
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricebank: 0426 925091				
Pru Mngd Tst**	29.51	31.56†	+0.14	1.64
Pru Gth Hvn Inc	101.33	101.33†	+0.08	5.40
-do- Acc	104.40	104.40†	+0.09	5.40
Pru Equity	649.94	691.91	-9.07	2.48
Pru Equity Inc	79.31	84.82†	-0.80	4.53
Pru European	168.52	180.23	-0.12	1.87
Pru Global Gth	76.45	81.76	-0.13	1.57
Pru High Inc	84.33	90.19†	-0.84	5.70
Pru Intl	152.85	163.47	+1.80	1.32
Pru Intl Sm Co	64.54	69.02†	-0.42	0.93
Pru Japanese	166.24	177.79†	+6.79	...
Pru Nth Amer	141.59	151.75	-0.09	0.46
Pru Pacific Mkt	69.66	74.50	+1.07	1.89
Pru Premr Inc	48.51	51.55	-0.56	7.43
Pru Smllr Cos	80.52	86.11	-0.39	2.01
Pru Spec Sits	96.21	102.89	-1.17	2.25
Pru UK Gwth	107.15	114.59†	-1.48	2.36
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
NC Income	153.87	163.91	-1.09	3.69
NC Japan	236.42	253.35	+6.49	...
NC Mid UK Cos	91.70	98.63	-0.97	2.55
NC America Inc	473.64	507.94	+0.15	0.57
-do- Acc	550.14	589.98	+0.18	0.57
NC Smlr UK Cos	250.02	272.56†	-2.08	1.85
NC European	246.86	263.51	-0.11	1.54
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	73.34	78.02	+0.30	3.65
Capital Units	137.80	146.50	-0.50	1.43
Commodity	97.57	103.70†	+2.80	1.15
European Gth	144.80	154.00	-2.00	1.42
Financial Sec	164.10	174.50	-1.90	1.93
High Return	207.30	220.50	-0.70	4.62
High Yield	200.90	213.70†	-0.80	3.78
Income Units	105.00	111.70†	-0.20	4.95
Investment	164.50	175.00	-2.20	1.44
Japan Gth	126.10	134.10	+4.70	...
Japan Smaller	160.00	170.20	+2.90	...
Masterfund	43.78	46.57	+0.01	0.97
Scotbits	239.00	254.20	-2.70	1.66
Scotshares	249.40	265.30	+0.10	2.83
Scotyields	218.00	231.90†	+0.20	4.02
Select Intl	125.40	133.40	+0.40	0.74
Smaller Cos	211.20	224.60†	+0.20	4.28
Special Situation	105.80	112.50	-1.30	0.75
UK Equity	218.30	232.20	-0.20	2.49
US Growth	140.40	149.30†	-0.20	0.33
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	237.94	253.80	-0.15	0.71
-do- Acc	257.09	274.19	-0.16	0.71
Australian	132.56	141.39†	-0.33	1.41
-do- Acc	155.84	166.22	-0.39	1.41
UK Enterprise	201.35	214.77†	-6.92	2.80
-do- Acc	232.60	248.10	-8.00	2.80
European Gth	59.25	63.19†	-0.26	1.38
-do- Acc	61.35	65.42	-0.26	1.38
Euro Smllr Cos	55.21	58.89	-0.24	0.70
-do- Acc	55.59	59.30	-0.24	0.70
Far Eastern Gth	63.57	67.80†	+0.96	...
-do- Acc	64.59	68.90	+0.98	...
Fixed Interest	51.83	54.67†	-0.72	8.70
-do- Acc	63.09	67.17	-0.89	8.70
Gilt Income	101.78	107.29†	-1.46	8.55
-do- Acc	142.24	149.88†	-2.04	8.55
Income	294.94	314.60†	-6.79	4.56
-do- Acc	870.13	928.15	-20.02	4.56
Japan Enterprise	58.33	62.21	+2.90	...
-do- Acc	58.33	62.21	+2.90	...
Japan Smllr Cos	361.34	385.23†	+13.08	...
-do- Acc	361.86	385.98	+13.11	...
Pacific Gth	81.07	86.47†	+0.81	0.56
-do- Acc	83.48	89.04	+0.71	0.56
Smaller Cos	180.95	193.01†	-1.61	1.30
-do- Acc	207.38	221.19	-1.85	1.30
Tokyo	90.35	96.37†	+3.01	0.01
-do- Acc	91.26	97.34	+3.04	0.01
UK Equity	200.13	213.47†	-3.91	3.11
-do- Acc	370.62	395.33	-7.24	3.11
US Smllr Cos	129.43	138.05	+0.29	...
-do- Acc	129.43	138.05	+0.29	...
World Fd	67.55	72.05†	-0.28	1.13
-do- Acc	71.22	75.97	-0.36	1.13
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2280				
Equity Income	42.91	45.70	+0.16	4.43
Equity Strategy	62.38	66.43	-0.43	1.80
European Opps	69.97	74.52	-0.28	3.22
Maximum Inc	94.14	100.72	+0.06	5.64
UK Smaller Cos	48.77	51.94	+0.74	3.21
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	335.00	358.00	-4.70	3.06
American	268.00	283.30	+1.30	0.97
Pacific	298.80	319.60	+4.40	0.83
European	444.10	475.00	-1.80	1.21
Worldwide	75.68	80.94	-0.30	1.40
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	298.70	317.80	-2.80	2.79
UK Sm Cos Eqy	191.70	204.00	-1.00	2.41
European	317.90	338.20	-2.50	2.00
North American	252.40	268.60	+1.20	0.54
Income Plus Inc	63.59	67.69†	-0.22	3.97
UK Spec Sits	64.69	68.82†	-0.55	2.39
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	24.78	26.52	-0.21	3.16
Intl Growth Acc	27.37	29.29	+0.19	1.11
Global Inc Acc	30.28	32.41	-0.01	4.20
Market Ldrs Acc	25.49	27.27†	-0.27	3.08
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	81.34	86.99†	-2.29	...
Euro Spec Sits	42.86	45.68	-0.26	...
-do- Acc	45.38	48.37	-0.27	...
Far East Opps	29.17	31.44	-0.63	...
-do- Acc	29.91	32.30	-0.65	...
General Growth	96.77	103.60	-1.20	2.22
Global Tech	113.90	123.00	-4.70	...
Income Growth	98.80	106.00	-0.40	3.81
Income Monthly	95.75	99.62	-0.92	4.71
Japan Growth	69.47	73.87	-0.71	...
Overseas Gth	72.40	77.13	-1.19	...
Smaller Cos	69.52	74.75	+0.23	1.79
Special Opps	98.65	106.00†	+0.60	2.32
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	42.60	45.27	-0.32	1.73
Equity Gth Acc	57.39	60.98	-0.98	1.29
UK Eq General	41.40	43.99	-0.44	2.40
-do- Acc	54.22	57.72	-0.58	2.40
European Acc	40.18	42.70	-0.18	1.24
Far East Acc	49.18	52.26	-0.39	0.32
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	30.66	32.43	-0.43	6.87
N American Acc	44.33	47.11	-0.05	0.76
Gis Lgr Cos Acc	261.30	283.60	+0.10	1.68
UK Eq High Inc	34.77	36.95	-0.25	3.88
-do- Acc	40.73	43.28	-0.30	3.88
UK Lgr Cos Inc	284.50	308.70	-3.70	3.85
UK Lgr Cos Acc	365.80	397.00	-4.70	3.85
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	NZ33.38	NZ33.59	+0.01	1.24
US Eq	$2.089	$2.197	+0.01	0.84
Far East Eq	Y209.3	Y222.3	+2.70	...
Japan Eq	Y204.6	Y222.5	+0.60	...
FT Europe	111.00	117.90	-1.40	2.28
FT North Am	$1.723	$1.806	-0.01	1.12
FT Japan	Y210.5	Y223.6	+5.90	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	115.20	122.30	-1.10	1.89
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	344.00	365.30	-1.80	0.29
British	922.50	976.00†	...	4.35
European	371.00	395.30	-3.90	1.52
Japan	126.40	134.80	+0.80	...
New Pacific	279.70	297.90	-1.70	1.31
Mngd Cash	96.27	96.27	+0.07	5.34
Majority Stg	100.48	101.49	+0.08	5.24
Inv Tst	176.30	186.90†	-2.70	1.92
Subars PPP	372.30	391.90	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin, 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	710.60	760.00	-9.90	2.39
N America Acc	112.50	120.30	+0.30	0.15
Far East Acc	113.30	121.20	+2.30	...
W'wide Bond	62.13	65.96	+0.14	5.34
European	79.87	85.42	+0.21	0.52
Equity Income	80.13	85.70	-0.89	3.68
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingstoke, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	34.37	36.76	-0.19	0.71
Managed Assets	115.52	123.56	-0.69	3.57
UK Income	35.80	38.29	-0.21	3.23
UK Growth	35.25	37.71	-0.28	2.53
Worldwide Gth	29.61	31.67	+0.26	0.47
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	201.61	214.49	-1.30	0.19
-do- Acc	221.44	235.57	-1.46	0.19
British Gth	82.22	87.47†	-1.57	2.05
-do- Acc	96.74	102.92†	-1.85	2.05
European	90.53	96.31†	+0.08	0.89
-do- Acc	95.49	101.59†	+0.09	0.89
Extra Inc	177.88	189.24†	-4.84	4.34
-do- Acc	283.77	301.88†	-7.73	4.34
General Unit	254.49	270.73	-4.14	2.75
-do- Acc	502.15	534.21	-8.16	2.75
Income	312.27	332.20	-3.96	3.85
-do- Acc	636.04	676.64	-8.07	3.85
International	468.16	498.04	-1.71	0.65
-do- Acc	611.96	651.02	-2.23	0.65
Pacific	306.84	326.42	-1.93	0.01
-do- Acc	321.35	341.86	-2.02	0.01
Premier Income	50.62	52.73	-0.54	6.79
-do- Acc	103.98	108.31	-1.10	6.79
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	125.60	134.30	-0.10	0.23
Australia	7.175	7.680	-0.11	1.04
Equity	180.90	193.60	-1.50	4.41
Euro Spec Sits	140.20	149.00	-0.20	0.58
Financial	39.08	41.84	-0.76	2.90
Global Opps Inc	87.00	92.88	+0.37	2.17
-do- Acc	90.18	96.27	+0.39	2.17
Gold Gen Inc	42.91	46.00	+0.90	0.96
-do- Acc	81.86	87.80	+1.70	0.96
Income	117.20	125.40†	-1.10	4.92
Japan General	136.70	145.50	+3.70	...
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HR. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545				
European Opps	60.60	64.57	-0.31	0.46
-do- Acc	61.24	65.24	-0.31	0.46
Far East Opps	134.80	143.69†	+0.61	...
-do- Acc	138.05	147.25†	+0.63	...
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	222.30	236.40	...	4.13
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	12.33	13.11	+0.36	0.50
Pacific Basin	29.60	31.48	-0.13	0.60
Canadian Gth	38.07	40.50	+0.05	0.10
Global Bond	80.984	81.004	0.00	7.28
Penny Share	21.49	22.86	-0.39	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.40	52.40	+0.03	5.83
Gilt Growth	66.17	68.85	-0.74	...
Gilt Income	52.25	54.37†	-0.49	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	109.90	111.30	-0.80	3.50
US Govmnt Bd	$0.713	$0.722	+0.00	...
Challenger	92.63	94.78	-0.82	...
WOODWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	65.52	69.70	-1.13	2.22

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

Singer & Friedlander

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	13,300	Coats Vyla	2,400	Legal & Gn	2,200	Scot & New	1,200
Alld-Lyons	3,800	Cm Union	1,600	Lloyds Bk	3,800	Scot Power	5,800
Anglian W	136	Courtaulds	2,600	MB Cardn	2,800	Sears	3,400
Argyll Gp	6,300	De La Rue	370	Marks Spr	7,200	Svrn Trent	1,300
Arjo Wig	3,400	Eng China	1,000	NFC	820	Shell Trans	7,600
AB Foods	386	Enterpr Oil	2,500	NatWst Bk	3,800	Siebe	1,900
BAA	906	Fisons	3,900	Nat Power	5,300	SmKl Bch	2,100
BAT Inds	2,800	Forte	2,300	Nth Wst W	865	Smith Nph	4,000
BOC	1,000	GRE	1,300	Nthrn Fds	3,300	Smith (WH)	1,000
BP	9,100	GUS A	723	P & O	1,900	Sthrn Elec	1,100
BT	12,000	Gen Acc	331	Pearson	1,400	Std Chartd	655
BTR	3,300	Gen Elec	5,200	PowerGen	7,500	Sun Allnce	566
Bk of Scot	1,000	Glaxo	5,000	Prudential	5,100	TI Gp	1,800
Barclays	4,600	Granada	816	RTZ	2,000	TSB	4,700
Bass	1,200	Grand Met	2,600	Rank Org	1,100	Tate & Lyle	723
Blue Circle	1,800	Guinness	3,200	Reckitt Col	1,900	Tesco	8,500
Boots	3,900	HSBC	2,100	Redland	4,400	Thames W	1,100
Bowater	1,500	Hanson	11,000	Reed Intl	1,700	Thrn EMI	919
Brit Airwys	1,700	ICI	1,600	Rentokil	702	Tomkins	4,200
Brit Gas	9,600	Inchcape	755	Reuters	1,000	Unilever	1,500
Brit Steel	2,700	Kingfisher	3,000	Rothmans	411	Utd Bisc	4,500
Burmah C	818	Kwik Save	648	Ryl Ins	1,900	Vodafone	7,200
Cable Wire	1,800	LASMO	3,400	Ryl Bk Scot	4,400	Wellcome	3,900
Cadbury	1,600	Ladbroke	5,800	Sainsbury	3,700	Whitbd 'A'	777
Carlton C	541	Land Secs	984	Scot Hydro	1,500	Wlms Hld	1,400

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3457.54 (-3.78)
S&P Composite 450.20 (-0.69)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 18788.70 (+23.78)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 6341.25 (+94.28)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency 106.4 (-0.6)

Sydney: AO 1675.9 (+15.2)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1661.29 (+4.14)

FT 30 share: 2214.6 (-6.8)

Brussels:
General 6239.59 (+9.09)

Paris: CAC 539.24 (+9.16)

Zurich: SKA Gen 491.2 (+6.0)

London:
FT A All-Share 1398.13 (-1.51)
FT 500 1533.97 (-2.93)
FT Gold Mines 109.4 (-1.2)
FT Fixed Interest 112.02 (-0.12)
FT Govt Secs 96.34 (-0.16)
Bargains 44856
SEAQ Volume 735.8m
USM (Datastrm) 131.78 (-0.42)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 22	April 2	July 1	July 12

Call options were taken out on 26/3/93: Aitken Hume, Arcon, Brent Walker Prf, Crest Nicholson, Erskine House, Ferranti Intl, Hanson Ws, Higgs & Hill, Medeva, Wetherspoon.
Puts: Aitken Hume, Amber Day. Put & Call: Ferranti Intl.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Jun 93	2888.0	2893.0	2860.0	2865.0	10970
Previous open interest: 39941	Sep 93				2883.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 93	94.17	94.19	94.15	94.16	10197
Previous open interest: 284895	Sep 93	94.30	94.32	94.29	94.31	3728
	Dec 93	94.29	94.30	94.27	94.28	1349
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 93	96.69	96.69	96.67	96.68	711
Previous open interest: 16440	Sep 93	96.52	96.52	96.47	96.48	453
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 93	92.95	93.00	92.93	92.94	26664
Previous open interest: 481936	Sep 93	93.75	93.79	93.72	93.75	12246
US Treasury Bond	Jun 93	110-10	110-10	110-10	109-15	1
Previous open interest: 0	Sep 93				108-07	0
Long Gilt	Mar 93	105-03	105-03	104-15	104-15	2938
Previous open interest: 70052	Jun 93	105-21	105-26	105-03	105-04	34123
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 93	108.71	108.92	108.70	108.78	635
	Sep 93				108.68	0
German Govmt Bond	Jun 93	95.76	95.85	95.62	95.82	48720
Previous open interest: 146991	Sep 93	95.97	96.00	95.90	96.02	149
Three month ECU	Jun 93	91.80	91.93	91.78	91.86	962
Previous open interest: 16807	Sep 93	92.71	92.79	92.66	92.76	447
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 93	95.45	95.48	95.42	95.45	2844
Previous open interest: 35909	Sep 93	95.85	95.89	95.80	95.87	545
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 93	95.70	95.97	95.60	95.96	8241
Previous open interest: 47691	Sep 93				95.74	0

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 79.3 (day's range 79.1-79.5).

FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 26	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7334-2.7408	2.7371-2.7405	⅜-½ds	1-1¼ds
Brussels	49.88-50.27	49.88-49.98	11-16ds	31-37ds
Copenhagen	9.3320-9.3760	9.3420-9.3640	5¾-7¾ds	18-21ds
Dublin	0.9996-1.0061	1.0006-1.0027	29-35ds	88-99ds
Frankfurt	2.4321-2.4397	2.4339-2.4371	⅜-⅝ds	1⅛-1⅜ds
Lisbon	225.13-226.54	225.13-225.59	217-249ds	535-614ds
Madrid	173.55-174.54	173.58-174.00	126-143ds	363-397ds
Milan	2371.10-2385.60	2379.50-2385.60	10-12ds	31-34ds
Montreal	1.8449-1.8563	1.8543-1.8563	0.22-0.10pr	0.37-0.19pr
New York	1.4825-1.4910	1.4900-1.4910	0.37-0.36pr	1.03-1.00pr
Oslo	10.3300-10.3830	10.3330-10.3550	1⅛-3¾ds	6⅝-9¼ds
Paris	8.2430-8.2910	8.2430-8.2570	3¾-4¼ds	9⅞-10⅜ds
Stockholm	11.4940-11.6010	11.5130-11.5370	3-5¾ds	11-13⅞ds
Tokyo	173.27-173.78	173.51-173.78	⅜-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Vienna	17.06-17.18	17.08-17.11	2¼-3ds	6-8ds
Zurich	2.2491-2.2572	2.2521-2.2552	¼pr-par	⅝-⅜pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

Argentina peso*	1.4881-1.4906
Australia dollar	2.0964-2.0994
Bahrain dinar	0.5525-0.5645
Brazil cruzeiro*	36220.2-36223.3
Cyprus pound	0.72-0.73
Finland markka	8.7695-8.8855
Greece drachma	326.75-333.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.5075-11.5169
India rupee	46.17-47.13
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4495-0.4595
Malaysia ringgit	3.8686-3.8727
Mexico peso	4.53-4.63
New Zealand dollar	2.7900-2.7972
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.429-5.618
Singapore dollar	2.4473-2.4506
S Africa rand (fin)	6.7114-6.7208
S Africa rand (com)	4.7474-4.7537
U A E dirham	5.378-5.502

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4084-1.4094
Austria	11.48-11.50
Belgium (Com)	33.65-33.69
Canada	1.2445-1.2450
Denmark	6.27-6.28
France	5.551-5.556
Germany	1.6345-1.6355
Hong Kong	7.731-7.732
Ireland	1.487-1.489
Italy	1593.0-1596.0
Japan	116.45-116.55
Malaysia	2.599-2.600
Netherlands	1.837-1.838
Norway	6.94-6.95
Portugal	151.5-151.7
Singapore	1.6442-1.6452
Spain	116.6-116.8
Sweden	7.7225-7.7325
Switzerland	1.511-1.512

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 4¼ Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¾; 3 mth 5¾. Sell: 2 mth 5¾; 3 mth: 5¾.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates	[illegible]-6	[illegible]-6	[illegible]-6	[illegible]	
Interbank	[illegible]-6	[illegible]-6	[illegible]-6	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 5¾, close 4¼.					[illegible]
Local Authority Deps	6	n/a	6	5¾	5¾
Sterling CDs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs	3.08-3.05	n/a	3.10-3.07	3.20-3.17	3.46-3.43
Building Society CDs	[illegible]-6	[illegible]-6	[illegible]-6	[illegible]	[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £345m allotted: £100m; Bids: £98.655% received: 66%; Last week: £98.650% received: 53%; Avge rate: £5.3948 % last wk £5.4007 %; Next week: £100m.

EURO DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Bullion: Open $332.40-332.70 Close: $332.20-332.70 High: $332.60-333.10 Low $332.00-332.50 Krugerrand: $331.00-333.00 (£221.25-223.25)
Sovereigns: Old $79.00-82.00 (£51.25-53.25) New $79.00-82.00 (£51.25-53.25)
Platinum: $356.25 (£240.40) Silver: $3.71 (£2.485) Palladium: $108.75 (£73.00)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon	550	32	49	58	4½	24	32
(*573)	600	5	22	34	29	53	62
ASDA	67	5½	10	12½	3	7	9½
(*70)	76	2	6½	9	8½	13	15
Bass	500	57	67	77	1½	12	16
(*545)	550	13	34	47	14	30	37
Boots	460	23	42	52	4	17	22
(*485½)	500	5	21	32	26	39	43
Br Airways	280	12	21	29	7	24	27
(*281½)	300	3½	13	21	20	35	38
BP	280	25	37	42	2½	9	14
(*304½)	300	11	24	31	6	16	22
	330	2	11	19	27	34	40
Br Steel	80	6½	12	14	2	7	10
(*84)	90	2	7	10	9	14	16
C & W	700	35	58	72	6	30	37
(*727½)	750	8	32	47	32	56	63
CU	580	27	50	55	4½	18	29
(*597½)	629	4	24	32	33	43	55
Courtauld	550	19	36	49	9½	30½	37
(*552½)	600	2½	17	23	44	63	67½
GKN	460	13	34	41	10	22	32
(*461)	500	3	16	24	40	47	56
Grnd Met	420	32	49	55	2½	13	20
(*444)	460	7	23	34	17	32	38
ICI	1200	30	73	92	26	62	82
(*1193½)	1250	11	50	69	59	92	110
	1300	3½	32	52	102	126	145
Kingfisher	535	25	41	52	5	23	31
(*556)	584	4	19	30	31	51	58
Ladbroke	180	13	24	31	5	14	21
(*193)	200	3½	13	20	16	25	30
Land Sec	500	23	31	37	3½	22	24
(*515½)	550	1½	9	16	37	57	57
M & S	330	15	25	32	4	14	17
(*338½)	360	3	11	18	23	33	36
Sainsbury	460	25	39	51	4	16	23
(*483)	500	6	22	32	23	40	44
Shell	550	29	48	55	3½	11	20
(*573)	600	3½	19	29	29	35	46
Smkl Bch	390	29	45	51	4	16	22
(*407)	420	13	28	38	17	30	38
Storehse	180	13	21	27	4	12	15
(*188½)	200	4	11	17	13	22	26
Trafalgar	74	6	11	13	3	7	9½
(*76)	83	2½	7	9½	9	13	14
Unilever	1150	32	72	98	11	33	43
(*1187½)	1200	8½	43	69	40	58	67
Utd Bisc	390	16	33	43	7½	18	25
(*409)	420	4	18	28	26	34	41

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
BAA	750	58	69	85	8	22	30
(*794½)	800	26	40	56	28	42	54
BAT Ind	950	48	78	88	23	37	56
(*995½)	1000	24	49	63	50	62	81
BTR	550	54	65	71	4½	10	17
(*595½)	600	18	32	41	18	29	39
Br Aero	260	26	40	51	14	31	38
(*267)	280	18	31	42	32	42	50
Br Telcm	420	25	32	38	7½	19	23
(*430½)	460	6	13	20	30	41	45
Cadbury	460	36	48	58	6½	14	21
(*482½)	500	14	27	37	26	32	30
Guinness	460	20	33	45	17	27	34
(*469½)	500	6	17	28	48	53	57
GEC	300	14½	22	25	7½	15	19
(*302½)	330	4	8½	12½	27	35	38
Hanson	220	24	26½	30	2	5½	8½
(*239½)	240	9	14½	19	8	13½	17
LASMO	160	16	25	31	9½	15	23
(*166)	180	8	15	22	20	28	33
Lucas	130	13	18	23	7	11	16
(*137)	140	7½	13	18	13	16	22
P & O	550	35	55	65	16	27	46
(*582½)	600	13	30	42	45	55	72
Pilkington	110	13	19	25	5	9½	14
(*119)	120	9½	15	20	9	15	19
Prudential	300	29	38	44	4½	9	15
(*335½)	330	12	20	27	17	22	29
RTZ	650	42	62	75	14	27	40
(*670)	700	15	35	50	40	55	67
Scot New	460	16	28	34	17	33	39
(*458½)	500	4½	13	19	46	60	64
Tesco	240	9	17	22	16	20	25
(*237)	260	3	9½	15	32	35	38
Thames W	500	52	55	59	4	14	19
(*543½)	550	16	23	31	21	38	43
Vodafone	360	30	40	50	8	18	25
(*380)	390	14	25	35	24	33	40

FT-SE INDEX (*2854)

	2750	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000
Calls						
Apr	126	85	45	23	10	4
May	142	107	92	55	32	20
Jun	158	125	99	80	51	43
Jul	175	142	113	100	68	50
Dec	-	205	-	180	-	120
Puts						
Apr	10	20	38	67	109	154
May	29	40	62	94	125	164
Jun	38	60	77	100	138	172
Jul	56	73	92	120	148	181
Dec	-	115	-	155	-	215

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	360	30	38	45	11	18	23
(*373)	390	14	23	31	27	34	39
Amstrad	30	5½	7	8½	2	3	4
(*32½)	35	3	5	6½	4½	6	7
Barclays	390	40	50	58	13	24	30
(*412½)	420	23	34	43	27	38	46
Blue Circ	220	17	23	28	17	24	29
(*217½)	240	7	15	18	32	37	43
Br Gas	280	27	29	34	7	11	15½
(*300)	300	12	16½	23	17	30	26
	330	3½	6	12	39	40	45
Dixons	220	15	22	27	19	26	31
(*216)	240	8	14	20	32	41	45
Eurotnl	460	70	84	105	22	35	43
(*490)	500	43	60	80	42	55	65
Forte	180	24	27	32	8½	13	17
(*199)	200	11	18	22	20	24	26
Glaxo	550	75	98	97	15	27	42
(*595)	600	44	68	72	32	47	67
	650	22	45	53	63	74	99
HSBC	600	43	62	75	32	50	55
(*621)	650	23	41	53	64	75	83
Hillsdwn	140	20	23	26	6½	11	14
(*154½)	160	7½	12	18	18	22	26
Lonrho	80	6½	10	13	7	12	14
(*78½)	90	4½	6½	9½	14	19	21
Reuter	1350	99	135	163	46	74	90
(*1365)	1400	72	105	135	70	97	112
R-Royce	120	10	17	22	8	11	14
(*126)	130	8	12½	17	13	17	20
Sears	90	15½	18	19	3	5	7
(*102)	100	8	11	14	6	9	10
Thrn Emi	850	58	74	84	20	42	50
(*880)	900	32	46	58	43	68	70
TSB	160	18	22	25	7½	12	14
(*169)	180	8½	13	17	18	23	26
Vaal Reefs	40	7½	9½	11	2½	3	5½
(*44)	45	5	6	9	4	7	8
Wellcome	800	51	74	93	40	55	71
(*793½)	850	30	52	70	70	92	101
Series		**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Fisons	180	25	32	39	3	14	13
(*196½)	200	10	22	30	11	24	29
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Eastn Elc	460	30	39	47	9	24	30
(*474½)	500	10	18	27	31	45	53
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Natl Pwr	330	25	31	39	10½	20	25
(*336)	360	11	17	25	29	38	42
Scot Pwr	240	23	28	32	6	13	16
(*254)	260	11	15½	21	15	24	26

March 26, 1993 Tot: 22016 Calls: 13893 Puts: 8123 FT-SE Calls: 4153 Puts: 2220
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: The strength of sterling against the US dollar and the european currencies conspired against cocoa and the grain markets. Arbitrage selling from the New York cocoa market induced some additional technical selling, while wheat and barley traders were worried that the rise in the pound against the deutschemark would cause a cut in the intervention price.

LONDON FOX COCOA
Mar 677-675; May 685-687; Jul 700-699; Sep 713-712; Dec 733-731; Mar 753-750
May 764 SLR; Jul 778 SLR; Sep 792-791; Dec 816-815. Volume: 2024

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)
Mar 923-915; May 893-891; Jul 858-857; Sep 868 BID
Nov 880 BID; Jan 892-890; Mar 905-890. Volume: 1757

RAW SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow
Spot 249.5; May 257.0-55.0; Aug 266.6-65.0; Oct 245.6-44.0
Dec 220.0-10.0; Mar unq; May 228.0-24.0; Aug unq. Volume: 23

WHITE SUGAR (FOB) Reuters
Spot 256.5; May 301.5-00.0; Aug 304.5-03.0; Oct 289.5-88.0
Dec 288.5-84.0; Mar 285.0-83.0; May 287.0-83.1; Aug 291.5-8n.1. Volume: 674

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 26

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	87.20	134.11	131.94
(+/-)	-3.55	+13.30	-0.78
Eng/Wales	87.20	133.44	131.38
(+/-)	-3.55	-13.58	+0.38
(%)	-12.1	-12.1	-30.2
ScoLand	n/a	137.74	134.60
(+/-)	n/a	-14.0	-2.78
(%)	n/a	-50.9	-41.8

LONDON MEAT FUTURES Live Pig (Apl)
Open/Close: Mar unq unq; Jun 109.0 109.0; Jul 105.0 105.0. Volume: 25

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
WHEAT (close £/t): May 143.40; Jun 144.60; Sep 108.25; Nov 110.55; Jan 113.65. Volume: 162
BARLEY (close £/t): May 138.90; Sep 106.90; Nov 109.55; Jan 112.50; Mar 114.50. Volume: 26
HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t): Apr 147.30; Jun 140.30; Aug 141.50; Oct 145.50; Dec unq. Volume: 25
POTATO (£/t) Open/Close: Apr 41.5 42.3; May 43.0 42.8; Apr 95.0 95.2. Volume: 148
RUBBER No 1 RSS Cif (p/kg): Apr 62.50-63.00

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Crude levels drifted sideways as indifferent players opted to make an early exit.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.50	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.60	n/c
Brent 15 day (May)	18.70	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (May)	20.30	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	20.40	-0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT) Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	200 (+1)	202 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	177 (n/c)	178 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Apr	177 (n/c)	178 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H May	173 (n/c)	174 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	75 (n/c)	76 (n/c)
Naphtha	173 (+1)	175 (+1)

IPE FUTURES GNI Ltd
GAS OIL: Apr 173.50-73.75; May 171.25-71.50; Jun 170.75-71.00; Jul 172.25-72.50; Aug 173.75-74.25; Sep 175.75-76.25. Vol: 11381
BRENT (6.00pm): May 18.69-18.70; Jun 18.77-18.78; Jul 18.74-18.76; Aug 18.78-18.80; Sep 18.80-18.83. Vol: 14650
UNLEADED GASOLINE: Apr 201.00-03.00; May 201.50-03.50; Jun 200.00-04.00; Jul 210.00 SLR; Aug 213.50 SLR. Vol: 19

BIFFEX GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 93	1475	1460	1477
May 93	1424	1408	1424
Jul 93	1270	1265	1273
Oct 93	1375	1373	1379

Vol: 149 lots. Open int: 3056. Index 1500 +1

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1440.0-1440.5	1461.5-1462.0	596625
Lead (£/tonne)	269.00-270.00	279.00-279.25	39675
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	994.50-995.00	1014.0-1014.5	173300
Tin ($/tonne)	5645.0-5650.0	5710.0-5715.0	5365
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1141.0-1142.0	1164.5-1165.0	573425
Nickel ($/tonne)	6060.0-6065.0	6130.0-6135.0	27042

Hong Kong awaits magic of Fiji's magnificent seven



SIMON BARNES
at the Hong Kong sevens

Hong Kong is more like itself than ever. More hectic, more noisy, more crazy, more bullish. Yesterday, I rode a horse called Ever Bull. Only a Hong Kong investor would have dared to tempt the fates with so wildly optimistic a name.

But in Hong Kong, recession is something that happens to your hair. Fears about the future and 1997 seem only to make the jack-hammer ring out more bullishly. I used to live here. I was last back three years ago. I don't recognise the place.

Among the new buildings is a stadium to house the territory's No. 1 sporting event, the ever-bullish Hong Kong sevens: or, to be formal, the Cathay Pacific Hongkong Bank Invitation Sevens.

Invitation? Yes. England were invited. They are invited every year and, every year, they refuse, a refusal that looks pusillanimous and grudging with every passing year. More than that, it looks downright silly.

This is one of the great sporting events of the year. It is as much a festival as Cheltenham and as competitive as the Gold Cup. It has the exoticism of teams from Namibia, Malaysia and Taiwan: it has the traditional strength of Australia and the All Blacks.

It has teams from Wales, Ireland and Scotland, even if the Welsh team is self-protectively called the Welsh President's Seven (I didn't know Wales had become a republic but I lead a very sheltered life) presumably so it won't matter so much when they lose.

Above all, the competition has Fiji: the world masters of seven-a-side rugby. Last year, it poured with rain. It was so crazily wet that they had to change the laws of rugby. The set scrum was unworkable on the sea of black porridge they were playing on so they restarted with a tap-ball instead. The ball itself was a slithering, malign, self-willed cake of soap.

"It rained for everyone," someone told me. "It rained for everyone except Fiji." They put on a performance of sublime ball-handling, running and swerving and playing stuff that would be miraculous enough with a dry ball on the beach by themselves, never mind in a tropical downpour with seven All Blacks trying to rip them apart. Their method is simple. The forwards can run and pass better than most of the backs from other countries and the backs are swifter again. They have won for the last three years and always by playing rugby of beauty. They also tackle like bulldozers.

Fiji go in as favourites: Australia and New Zealand are the only other real possibilities for the final. New Zealand want this badly; they have been in Hong Kong a full seven days before kick-off. They are serious.

Of course, All Blacks are always serious. It was New Zealand who brought physical confrontation to sevens. They beat Fiji a couple of times, too. That only forced Fiji to find a still higher gear of sublimity.

A notable paucity of northern hemisphere strength, then. What is more, the leading outsider is not the Welsh republicans but Western Samoa, the we-wuz-robbed semi-finalists last year.

Many events have tried to trump the Hong Kong ace. The latest is the so-called World Cup Sevens at Murrayfield in a fortnight. I am sure it will be a good event but Hong Kong has a guaranteed magic.

I know the best England players wish they were here: not for the beer but to have a crack at the All Blacks, Fijians and the rest. This is a wonderfully intense competition and a terrific party: the Rugby Football Union of Twickenham has become the party-pooper of world rugby.

This is slightly embarrassing to an Englishman in Hong Kong. However, the answer is simple: I shall adopt Fijian nationality for the weekend — like most of Hong Kong — and revel in the ever-bullish Fijians.

Clubs mark time while they wait for new sponsor

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Courage Clubs Championship marks time today while English clubs wait for Tuesday's announcement over the future sponsorship of the biggest league in world rugby.

Courage faces competition from three other would-be sponsors, also believed to be brewers, and an asking price from the Rugby Football Union much nearer £5 million than the £2.1 million agreed for the last three-year period with Courage.

In return for that sort of money, the sponsor will look for as much exposure as possible. Whether any agreement will be conditional upon greater television coverage remains to be seen, but the domestic contract with the BBC has another year to run. During that time, the corporation will face a growing challenge from ITV, which has established rights to most of the overseas rugby available.

Meanwhile, Bath and Wasps slug it out for the title and other famous names battle to avoid relegation. It is the last weekend, too, before England's tour party to Canada is named, and since the British Lions have removed 16 contenders, hope will spring eternal in other breasts.

Bath travel to West Hartlepool without Jeremy Guscott and Jonathan Webb, and Harlequins are missing Will Carling and Peter Winterbottom at Leicester. Northampton visit Wasps, for whom Huw Davies makes a rare appearance at full-back instead of the injured Alan Buzza and Fran Clough is back at centre, this week's disciplinary hearing having ended his suspension after his sending-off at Bath on March 13.

Even among neutrals, anxious glances will be cast towards Kingsholm, where Gloucester and Orrell try to move away from the bottom four. The enthusiasm and spirit of the Gloucester playing squad has convinced club administrators, as hard-headed a bunch as you will find anywhere, that the future is bright.

"I think we have weathered the storm," Mickey Booth, the chairman of selectors, said. "It has been as difficult a season as any of my vintage can remember, starting with the defections last summer, an appalling injury list and, on top of that, four going down.

"But we have one of the best grounds outside Twickenham, a good marketing man in Mike Burton, we have acquired a new training pitch and next season we expect to run an under-21 team every weekend. The new director of coaching will find himself involved with a going concern."

The leading Welsh clubs are badly affected by unavailability, too, Swansea to the extent that they have postponed their Heineken League game with Newport. However, Llanelli, who give four players to the Welsh president's team in the Hong Kong sevens, will go top if they beat Maesteg and Cardiff, hit by injury, try to stay in touch by overcoming Pontypool.

Vaux takes step back to avoid Welsh split

TERRY Vaux, the Risca solicitor who was due to become president of the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) later this year, has withdrawn from contention (David Hands writes). This may pre-empt decisions to be made at the special general meeting of the (WRU) on April 4, which includes a motion of no confidence in the union's general committee.

Vaux, who has been on the general committee since 1977 and is the senior vice-president, does not intend to renounce that role. But his position has remained contentious since 1989, when he and Gwilym Treharne — then Wales's representatives on the International Rugby Football Board — were implicated in the recruitment of Welsh players for a tour of South Africa.

Vaux said yesterday: "If I stood for the presidency I feel there would be a number of dissenting clubs and the effect of that would be divisive."

The agenda for the special meeting, the result of concerted action mainly by clubs from West Wales, refers to "unacceptable conduct" by the general committee and calls for a ramp including Glanmor Griffiths — who resigned as the union's treasurer — to run affairs until the annual meeting.

A straw poll among the nine districts that elect representatives to the WRU committee suggests a no-confidence vote would fail. There may be grounds for censure of the committee but a general view is that Welsh rugby would lose too much experience if the entire committee was voted out.

Deadly Botica has final in sights

Christopher Irvine talks to Wigan's prolific kicker on the eve of his club's big cup date



Wembley way: Botica draws a bead on a record-breaking final place for Wigan

FRANO Botica joined Wigan the same summer as John Gallagher, his luckless All Black rugby union colleague was chased, feted and snapped up for £300,000 by Leeds. Botica, who plays against Bradford Northern in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final today, signed his contract after meeting the club's directors at a fast food restaurant during New Zealand's tour of Wales in 1989. More and more he is looking like a cut-price bargain.

Botica was goal-kicking understudy to Grant Fox at the time. He and Gallagher would spend hours retrieving balls for Fox during his practice sessions. In three outstanding seasons at Central Park, the former Auckland stand-off half has cast off that shadow, running up the fastest 1,000 points in rugby league history, with a kicking precision that is redolent of Fox's unerring approach.

"It is a question of concentration, of blocking everything else out," he said. "Look up at the posts, down at the ball, four steps back, two across, then bang."

For the opposition, there are few more depressing sights. Botica, 29, is the game's deadliest accumulator of points. He kicked 126 goals in his first year, 159 in 1991-2, and, with 142 and 13 tries (338 points) so far this season, is threatening the 34-year club record of 176 goals and 394 points set by Fred Griffiths.

Bradford Northern, understandably, are reluctant to acknowledge a nightmare past, yet have good reason to fear Botica more than most. As a tight Regal Trophy final and last week's league win underlined, they are a far more resolute side than that taken apart by his 22 points in a 71-10 mauling last year. Today's repeat at Elland Road, however, contains an increasing threat with the development of the New Zealander at half-back.

The loss last year of Andy Gregory to Leeds prompted Botica's move inside from the wing to partner Shaun Edwards, the scrum-half. Rough edges were inevitable after such an instinctive combination, but Botica's verve and pace is becoming the perfect foil to the nippy Edwards.

He had his doubters early on, not least John Monie, who said the board had gone behind his back in signing Botica. In the Wigan coach's book, rugby union players are past the age of conversion at 25.

Injuries have narrowed Bradford's options and their chances of averting a fourth consecutive semi-final defeat. Wigan have tormented them in the Challenge Cup for the last two years. A sixth successive Wembley visit on May 1 and a meeting with Widnes would extend their record run in the competition to 30 games.

BRADFORD NORTHERN: D Watson; R Simpson, T Marchant, D Shelford, T Anderson; N Summers, D Fox; D Hobbs, B Noble, J Hamer, R Powell, K Fairbank, P Medley. Substitutes: to be announced.

WIGAN: S Hampson; J Robinson, J Lydon, A Ferrar, M Offiah, F Botica, S Edwards; K Skerrett, M Dermott, A Platt, D Betts, P Clarke, D Bell. Substitutes: S Panapa, N Cowie.

Referee: J Holdsworth.

IN BRIEF

Boardman involved in jersey dispute

Chris Boardman, the Olympic individual pursuit champion, is, through no fault of his own, involved in a row between the Professional Cycling Association and Ian Emmerson, the president of the British Cycling Federation (BCF).

The PCA has complained to the international body that Emmerson and the BCF racing committee have approved advertising on the jerseys of North Wirral Velo RC, Boardman's club, which breaches the federation's own rules.

Welter of votes for Loughran

Boxing: Eamonn Loughran, the Commonwealth welterweight champion from Ballymena, has been voted best young boxer of the year by the Boxing Writers' Club. Loughran, 22, headed the poll by a comfortable margin from Robert McCracken, the lightweight from Birmingham.

Eagles grounded

Rugby league: Mick Cook and Bruce McGuire, the Sheffield Eagles forwards, have been suspended by the Rugby Football League disciplinary committee after being sent off at Salford on Sunday. Cook received a four-match ban for a spear tackle and McGuire, from Australia, will sit out two games for tripping. Barry Williams, the Carlisle hooker, has been banned for four matches for punching.

Fiscal warning

Cricket: The West Indies board of control has been warned that it faces financial ruin within four years unless it modernises its working methods. The warning comes in a leaked report from a committee, set up by the board a year ago, to look into the state of Caribbean cricket.

Olympic award

Sport for the disabled: In the build-up to the 1996 Paralympic Games in Atlanta, Britain's disabled athletes will receive £70,000 from two grants from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts — £50,000 to help with training costs and £20,000 to find sponsorship.

Depth of blue

Football: Oxford have named nine blues in their squad of 13 for the 109th University match at Craven Cottage this afternoon.

Zola's long-shot

Athletics: Zola Pieterse said yesterday that she would like to make a serious attempt at the London marathon in the next four years.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

3.00 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Barnsley v Bristol Rovers
Brentford v Swindon
Leicester v Charlton
Luton v Cambridge Utd
Peterborough v Watford
Portsmouth v Oxford Utd
Wolverhampton v Sunderland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	37	22	8	7	67	32	74
West Ham	37	20	9	8	63	33	69
Portsmouth	37	19	9	9	61	39	66
Swindon	37	18	10	9	62	46	64
Millwall	37	17	13	7	59	38	64
Leicester	36	18	7	11	57	47	61
Tranmere	36	16	7	13	56	49	55
Grimsby	37	15	7	15	51	49	52
Derby	36	15	6	15	55	45	51
Wolves	37	13	12	12	50	45	51
Charlton	37	13	12	12	42	38	51
Barnsley	37	14	8	15	48	44	50
Peterborough	36	13	10	13	47	54	49
Watford	37	12	9	16	52	64	45
Sunderland	39	12	9	15	37	45	45
Oxford Utd	36	10	13	13	44	44	43
Notts County	37	10	12	15	46	59	42
Birmingham	37	11	8	18	39	56	41
Brentford	37	11	7	19	41	55	40
Cambridge	37	9	13	15	40	58	40
Luton	37	8	16	13	39	55	40
Bristol C	36	10	9	17	40	62	39
Southend	38	8	12	18	39	49	36
Bristol R	37	9	8	20	44	72	35

Not including last night's matches

Second division

Bolton v Fulham
Brighton v Swansea
Chester v Exeter
Hartlepool v Mansfield
Huddersfield v Burnley
Hull v Port Vale
Leyton Orient v Wigan
Plymouth v Stockport
Preston v Rotherham
Reading v Bournemouth
Stoke v Blackpool

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stoke	35	22	10	3	63	28	76
Port Vale	35	19	9	7	58	34	66
Stockport	36	17	11	8	58	40	62
West Brom	35	18	8	10	61	42	62
Bolton	34	17	6	9	57	34	58
Leyton Orient	37	16	9	13	52	41	56
Rotherham	38	15	11	10	49	41	56
Brighton	36	16	8	12	47	42	56
Reading	36	14	12	10	51	35	54
Swansea	35	13	13	9	48	36	52
Bradford	37	13	12	12	54	55	51
Burnley	37	13	12	12	43	43	51
Plymouth	35	13	10	12	42	44	49
Fulham	37	11	15	11	43	49	48
Bournemouth	36	11	12	13	36	40	45
Hull	36	11	10	15	37	51	43
Hartlepool	37	10	12	15	34	47	42
Exeter	36	9	13	14	43	39	40
Preston	37	10	7	20	53	78	37
Blackpool	36	8	12	16	50	63	36
Mansfield	36	9	9	18	42	52	36
Huddersfield	35	9	8	18	36	51	35
Wigan	36	8	10	18	35	52	34
Chester	37	8	4	25	44	80	28

Not including last night's matches

Third division

Cardiff v Barnet
Carlisle v Doncaster
Darlington v Gillingham
Hereford v Bury
Lincoln v Crewe
Rochdale v Colchester
Scunthorpe v Torquay
Walsall v Shrewsbury

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	34	20	6	8	61	39	66
Barnet	32	19	6	7	55	37	63
Wrexham	33	17	9	7	58	42	60
York	36	18	11	8	60	40	59
Bury	33	16	7	10	56	44	55
Lincoln	34	16	6	12	47	42	54
Shrewsbury	31	16	6	9	44	35	54
Walsall	32	16	4	12	58	54	52
Crewe	31	16	4	11	53	45	52
Chesterfield	34	14	8	12	49	48	50
Scarborough	32	14	8	12	55	53	48
Rochdale	33	12	10	11	57	54	46
Colchester	33	14	4	15	52	57	46
Scunthorpe	31	11	8	12	39	40	41
Darlington	33	9	11	13	35	42	38
Carlisle	33	10	7	16	42	49	37
Doncaster	34	8	11	15	32	47	35
Gillingham	35	7	11	17	41	53	32
Hereford	33	7	10	16	38	53	31
Northampton	33	8	6	19	40	59	30
Torquay	33	6	3	24	34	57	30
Halifax	34	7	8	19	42	58	29

Not including last night's matches

Anglo-Italian Cup

Final

Cremonese v Derby (1.30, at Wembley)

GM Vauxhall Conference

Bath v Dagenham & Redbridge
Farnborough v Stafford
Gateshead v Kettering
Kidderminster v Merthyr
Macclesfield v Woking
Northwich v Yeovil
Runcorn v Boston
Stalybridge v Altrincham
Welling v Bromsgrove
Witton v Slough

Scottish League

Premier division

Aberdeen v Motherwell
Airdrie v St Johnstone
Dundee Utd v Celtic
Hibernian v Falkirk
Partick v Hearts
Rangers v Dundee

First division

Ayr v Raith
Clydebank v St Mirren
Cowdenbeath v Hamilton
Dunfermline v Kilmarnock
Morton v Dumbarton
Stirling v Meadowbank

Second division

Albion v Queen Of South
Arbroath v Stenhousemuir
Berwick v Montrose
Brechin v Alloa
Clyde v East Stirling
East Fife v Stranraer
Forfar v Queen's Park

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor v Carshalton; Chesham v Hayes; Dulwich v Harrow; Hendon v Bromley; St Albans v Enfield; Staines v Marlow; Stevenage Borough v Aylesbury; Sutton v Basingstoke; Wokingham v Kingstonian, Yeading v Slough. First division: Dorking v Bishops Stortford; Heybridge Swifts v Wembley; Hitchin v Aveley; Leyton v Boreham Wood; Maidenhead v Tooting and Mitcham; Purfleet v Chalfont St Peter; Uxbridge v Molesey; Walton and Hersham v Abingdon; Whyteleafe v Billericay. Second division: Chertsey v Southall; Edgware v Worthing; Hampton v Banstead; Harefield v Egham; Hemel Hempstead v Saffron Walden; Leatherhead v Ruislip Manor; Metropolitan Police v Barton; Newbury v Rainham; Tilbury v Hungerford; Ware v Berkhamsted; Witham v Malden Vale. Third division: Camberley v Clapton; East Thurrock v Bracknell; Epsom and Ewell v Flackwell Heath; Hertford v Collier Row; Hornchurch v Northwood; Kingsbury v Cove; Petersfield v Feltham and Hounslow B; Thame v Horsham; Tring v Aldershot Town.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Horwich; Bishop Auckland v Colwyn Bay; Chorley v Fleetwood; Emley v Buxton; Gainsborough v Barrow; Marine v Frickley; Matlock v Morecambe; Mossley v Winsford; Southport v Droylsden; Whitley Bay v Leek. First division: Alfreton v Warrington; Ashton v Shepshed Albion; Curzon Ashton v Guiseley; Eastwood v Workington; Farsley Celtic v Knowsley; Glossop v Radcliffe Borough; Harrogate v Lancaster; Rossendale v Congleton; Worksop v Netherfield.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia v Stockton; Consett v Ferryhill; Easington Colliery v Durham City; Guisborough v West Auckland; Murton v Newcastle Blue Star; Peterlee Newtown v Brandon; Seaham Red Star v Northallerton; South Bank v Blyth Spartans; Tow Law v Chester Le Street; Whitby v Hebburn.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper v Glasshoughton Wel; Denaby v Ossett Town; Ossett Albion v North Ferriby; Pickering v Ecclesfill; Sheffield v Harrogate Ra; Spennymoor v Brigg; Stocksbridge PS v Armthorpe Welfare; Thackley v Ashfield; Winterton v Maltby MW.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Lamot Pils Trophy: Stantondale v Atherton Collieries. First division: Atherton LR v Blackpool Mechanics; Blackpool Rovers v Eastwood Hanley; Bradford Park Avenue v Penrith; Burscough v Glossop North End; Chadderton v Nantwich; Kidsgrove v Darwen; St Helens Town v Bamber Bridge; Salford v Ilkton.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bashley v Crawley; Burton v Dorchester; Cambridge City v Halesowen; Chelmsford v VS Rugby; Cheltenham v Trowbridge; Corby v Gloucester; Hastings v Moor Green; Solihull v Worcester; Weymouth v Dover. Midland division: Bent v RC Warwick; Bilston v Bridgnorth; Evesham v Stourbridge; Forest Green v Grantham; Hinckley v Bedworth; King's Lynn v Dudley; Leicester v Nuneaton Borough; Newport AFC v Sutton Coldfield; Redditch v Weston-super-Mare; Rushden and Diamonds v Tamworth. Southern division: Ashford v Newport IoW; Erith and Belvedere v Canterbury; Gravesend and Northfleet v Fareham; Hevant v Bury Town; Margate v Baldock; Poole v Dunstable; Salisbury v Fisher; Sittingbourne v Burnham; Wealdstone v Sudbury; Witney v Braintree.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris v Great Yarmouth; Coleraine v Felixstowe; Fakenham v Brightlingsea; Gorleston v Haverhill, Lowestoft v Histon; Norwich United v Halstead; Stowmarket v March Town; Watton v Harwich and Parkeston, Wisbech v Brantham; Wroxham v Tiptree.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chard v Plymouth Argyle; Clevedon v Exmouth; Elmore v Bristol Manor Farm; Mangotsfield v Saltash; Minehead v Westbury; Paulton Rovers v Liskeard; Torquay v Frome, Bideford v Taunton.

SMITHKOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ballymena v Coleraine; Carrick; Crusaders v Newry; Glentoran v Bangor; Larne v Glenavon, Omagh Town v Distillery; Portadown v Cliftonville.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Abergavenny v Llandudno; Aberystwyth v Mold; Afan Lido v Newtown; Bangor v Cwmbran; Briton Ferry v Porthmadog; Caersws v Ebbw Vale; Flint Town v Maesteg Park; Llanelli v Holywell.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Semi-final: Second leg: Connah's Quay v Rhyl (11.0).

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Manchester United v Liverpool (2.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION LEAGUE: First division: Oxford v Chelsea; Southampton v Swindon.

FA VASE: Semi-finals: Second leg (First leg scores in brackets): Canvey Island (0) v Taunton (2); Gresley Rovers (1) v Bridlington Town (2).

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Meadonians v Enfield; Tiffinians v Danes; Tenisonians v Ignatians; Wilsonians v Aldysians; Glyn v C Manning.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bradfieldians v Lancing; Chigwellians v Reptonians. First division: Brentwoods v Hamovians; Foresters v Wykehamists; Salopians v Haileyburians; Wellesians v Ardinians.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Alexandra Park v Old Salesians; Alleyn OB v Royal Bank of Scotland; Bank of England v Merton; Brentham v Old Lyonians; Broomfield v Old Stationers; Carshalton v Old Bromleians, Civil Service v South Bank Poly; East Barnet OB v Cuaco, Isis v Barclays Bank; New Association v Southgate Olympic; Lensbury v Lloyds Bank; Norseman v Midland Bank; Old Esthamians v NatWest Bank; Old Laymarians v Reigate Priory; Old Parkonians v Old Actonians; Old Parmiterians v Old Westminster Citizens, West Wickham v Crouch End Vampires.

OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Mill Hill Village v Southgate County; Old Finchleians v Old Owens; Old Grammarians v Old Beaconians; Parkfield v Nottsborough.

UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford v Cambridge (Fulham, 1.0)

WFA LEAGUE: Premier division: Arsenal v Doncaster Belles (Highbury, 1.30); Knowsley United v Bronze; Maidstone Tigresses v Millwall Lionesses; Stanton Rangers v Ipswich; Wimbledon v RS Southampton. First division north: Cowgate Kestrels v Nottingham Argyle; Sheff Wednesday v Sunderland First division south: Brighton and Hove Albion v Hassocks; Bristol Backwell v Hemel Hempstead; Dames Line v Town and County; Horsham v Epsom and Ewell; Oxford Utd v Saldean. League Cup: Quarter-final: Wolverhampton v Leasowe Pacific.

RUGBY UNION

3.0 unless stated

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Gloucester v Orrell
Leicester v Harlequins (1.0)
London Scottish v London Irish
Rugby v Bristol
Wasps v Northampton
West Hartlepool v Bath (2.30)

Second division

Bedford v Coventry
Fylde v Newcastle Gosforth (2.30)
Moseley v Blackheath (3.15)
Richmond v Wakefield
Rosslyn Park v Morley (2.30)
Sale v Nottingham

Third division

Aspatria v Plymouth
Havant v Clifton
Leeds v Liverpool St Helens (2.30)
Otley v Askeans
Sheffield v Exeter

Fourth division north

Hereford v Kendal
Preston Grasshoppers v Rotherham
Stourbridge v Nuneaton
Towcestrians v Durham
Walsall v Lichfield
Winnington Park v Harrogate

Fourth division south

Maidstone v London Welsh (2.45)
Met Police v Lydney (2.45)
North Walsham v Basingstoke (2.45)
Southend v Berry Hill (2.45)
Sudbury v Camborne (2.45)
Thurrock v High Wycombe (2.45)

LONDON: First division: Dorking v Sidcup; Eton Manor v Streatham-Croydon, Ealing v Sutton and Epsom; Guildford and Godalming v Old Mid-Whitgiftians; Old Alleynian v Barking; Tabard v Old Gaytonians.

MIDLANDS: First division: Bedworth v Leighton Buzzard, Mansfield v Derby; Newark v Birmingham Solihull; Syston v Barkers Butts; Vipers v Camp Hill; Westleigh v Leamington; Wolverhampton v Pavians.

NORTH: First division: Bradford and Bingley v Wigton, Northern v Hull Ionians, Sandal v Hartlepool Rovers, Vale of Lune v Stockton, Wharfedale v Tynedale, Widnes v Middlesbrough.

SOUTH WEST: First division: Maidenhead v Cinderford; Newbury v Cheltenham; Penryn v Henley; Reading v Salisbury; St Ives v Taunton Leagus: Torquay v Broham.

Heineken League

First division

Aberavon v Bridgend (2.30)
Cardiff v Pontypool (2.30)
Maesteg v Llanelli (2.30)
Newbridge v Neath (2.30)
South Wales Police v Pontypridd
POSTPONED: Swansea v Newport.

Second division

Blaina v Glamorgan Wanderers (2.30)
Llandovery v Abertillery (2.30)
Llanharan v Cross Keys (2.30)
Narberth v Ebbw Vale (2.30)
Penarth v Tenby Utd (2.30)
Tredegar v Dunvant

THIRD DIVISION: Abercynon v St Peters, Kenfig Hill v Mountain Ash; Pontypool United v Aberavon Quins; Rumney v Blackwood, Tumble v Treorchy; Wrexham v Bonymaen. Fourth division: Cardigan v Ystradgynlais, Carmarthen v Builth Wells; Cilfynydd v Ruthin; Colwyn Bay v Vardre; Kidwelly v Gamdiffaith; Tondu v Cardiff Quins.

McEwan's League

First division

Currie v Glasgow High
Edinburgh Acads v Heriot's FP
Stirling County v Boroughmuir

FOURTH DIVISION: Lasmore v Cartha Queens Park.

ALLOA SEVENS CUP: First round: Aberdeen GSFP v Wigtownshire

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: England Colts v Wales Youth (Recreation Ground, Bath, 2.30); Scotland Under-18 v Scottish Schools (Belgray, 3.0)

Club matches

Jed Forest v Musselburgh
Kirkcaldy v Hawick
Melrose v Kilmarnock
Preston Lodge v Selkirk
Stewart's-Mel FP v Kelso
Waterloo v Saracens
West of Scotland v Dunfermline
Weston-super-Mare v Redruth

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut challenge

Semi-final

Bradford v Wigan (Elland Road)

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG BASKETBALL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Guildford Kings v Leicester Riders; Hemel Hempstead v Cheshire Jets; London Towers v Derby Bucks; Oldham Celtics v Sunderland Saints; Thames Valley Tigers v Worthing Bears. Second division: Bury Lobos v Solent Stars; Cardiff v Ware Rebels, Coventry Flyers v Doncaster Panthers; Lewisham Lightning v Crystal Palace; Plymouth Raiders v Middlesbrough Mohawks. Women: First division: Chesham Ladies v Cheshire Ladies; Leicester Ladies v Sheffield Hatters, Rhondda v London YMCA; Thames Valley v Milton Keynes Q Cats.

OTHER SPORT

ROWING: University Boat Race (3.15).

BOWLS: English men's championships (Melton Mowbray). English women's championships (Stevenage).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish masters (Goffs, County Kildare).

SQUASH: Women's open (King's Club, Guernsey).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions resort		Runs to	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow
FRANCE									
Alpe d'Huez	10	240	variable	patchy	windy	2		25/3	
(Wind affecting lift operation. Good on glacier de Sarenne)									
Chamonix	115	305	good	closed	sun	-4		25/3	
(Good snow to 1,800m. Le Brevent and La Flegère have best snow)									
Serre Chevalier	20	120	hard	bare	windy	3		1/3	
(Wind affecting lift operation, most open in Chantemerle)									
Val Thorens	80	280	good	good	sun	-4		25/3	
(Strong winds over summits. Good skiing. Area links open)									
SWITZERLAND									
Gstaad	20	40	new	some	cloud	1		26/3	
(Half of lifts running. Best snow at altitude)									
St Moritz	20	90	good	closed	sun	2		25/3	
(All lifts operating. Best snow at Corvatsch)									
Wengen	20	80	new	closed	snow	2		26/3	
(75% of lifts operating. Good snow on upper)									
Zermatt	40	180	good	firm	sun	-3		25/3	
(All lifts, pistes open. Good skiing at all levels)									
AUSTRIA									
Igls	20	85	firm	heavy	cloudy	6		26/3	
(Light snow on upper. 4 of 6 lifts operating)									
Obergurgl	80	180	good	variable	cloudy	-2		26/3	
(Best snow on upper slopes. Most lifts operating)									
St Anton	35	400	good	patchy	cloud	0		25/3	
(Most lifts, runs open. Best snow at altitude)									
Zurs	170	250	good	slick	snow	-2		26/3	
(All lifts, runs open. Good snow all levels, best at altitude)									

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League

First division

Bristol City v Grimsby
Newcastle v Birmingham
West Ham v Millwall (12.0, all ticket)

Second division

Bradford v West Brom

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier Division: Group B: Drogheda United v Bray Wanderers (3.30).

FAI HARP LAGER CUP: Quarter-finals: Derry City v Shamrock Rovers (3.30); Dundalk v Limerick (3.30); Glenmore Celtic v Shelbourne; Sligo Rovers v St Patrick's Ath (3.30).

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Inter Cardiff v Conwy; Mold v Maesteg Park (12.0).

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Shepshed Albion v Workington.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Liskeard Athletic v Mangotsfield Utd.

Third division: Sheffield Forgers v Camberley Eagles. Women: First division: Northampton v London Jets; Nottingham Wildcats v Ipswich; Sheffield Hatters v Milton Keynes O Cats.

RUGBY LEAGUE

3.0 unless stated

Stones Bitter Championship

Castleford v Halifax (3.30)
Leeds v Hull
Sheffield v Wakefield (3.15)
Warrington v St Helens

Second division

Featherstone v Rochdale (3.30)
London Crusaders v Carlisle
Swinton v Huddersfield

Third division

Chorley v Nottingham City (3.15)
Dewsbury v Ryedale York (3.30)
Highfield v Blackpool
Keighley v Hunslet (3.15)
Whitehaven v Batley (3.30)
Workington v Doncaster

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Birmingham Bullets v Guildford Kings; Sunderland Saints v London Towers; Worthing Bears v Derby Bucks. Second division: Barnsley Generals v Brixton Topcats; Cardiff v Middlesbrough Mohawks; Crystal Palace v Coventry Flyers.

HOCKEY

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND CUP: Semi-finals: Reading v Teddington (Sonning Lane, 2.00).

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Under-21 quarter-finals: Hampshire v Royal Navy (Bay House school, Gosport, 12.0); Lancashire v Nottinghamshire (Greenbank HS, Southport, 2.30).

AEWHA CUP: Quarter-finals: Ealing v Wimbledon (Rectory school, Hampton, 1.0); Sutton Coldfield v Exmouth (Birmingham University, 2.30); Ipswich v Chelmsford (1.30); Leicester v St Albans (Melton Mowbray, 1.0).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: English men's championships (Melton Mowbray). English women's championships (Stevenage).

LACROSSE: International Series: England v United States All-Stars (Ewan Fields, Hyde United FC, 3.0).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Irish masters (Goffs, County Kildare).

Kenyans plotting revenge over Skah

FROM DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT
IN AMOREBIETA, SPAIN

TO THE people of Spain, Khalid Skah is *El Villano*, the villain of the Olympic 10,000 metres in Barcelona. Some would even say he is *El Bandido*, the man who stole the gold from its rightful owner. The Moroccan will not be popular here tomorrow if he win the world cross country title for the third time.

Skah ran his lap of honour in the stadium to a cacophony of jeers and whistles, the Spanish crowd's hostility incited by what it perceived as Moroccan cheating. The referee agreed and Skah was disqualified but, the next day, a jury of appeal reinstated him. Olympic controversy has rarely risen to such fever pitch.

The aggrieved party was Richard Chelimo, a Kenyan. He claimed that Skah's team-mate, Hammou Boutayeb, who had been lapped, had obstructed his path during the last three laps. Skah and Boutayeb were accused of conspiracy and Chelimo was Olympic champion for one night.

The feud between Skah and the Kenyans is long running. Had it not been for Skah's world cross country victories in 1990 and 1991, the last seven team and individual titles would have belonged to Kenya. After his second win, the Kenyans devised a brilliant plan to defeat him on the track in the 1991 world championships. Thomas Osano was instructed to stay back in the 10,000 metres and slow Skah down while Moses Tanui and Chelimo forged ahead.

The gold and silver medals went to Kenya; Skah took bronze. Then, in the cross country season preceding the Olympics, Skah was fourth, beaten, he said, by Kenyan foul play. "They were pushing me and stopping in front of me," he claimed. His reputation could not afford another defeat in Barcelona.

Battle recommences tomorrow. Chelimo is not here but his younger brother, Ismael Kirui, is, clear as to his duty. Skah must be beaten. "Whenever I race him, it will be a matter of upholding family pride," Kirui said.

Ominously for Skah, Sam Suero, the Kenya team manager, said: "It is the collective responsibility of our team to win." In other words, the Kenyans will gang up on Skah again. The Moroccan team is not strong enough to balance the contest.

Such is Kenya's strength that only three of last year's winning squad of nine are back: William Sigei, Dominic Kirui and Osoru Ondoro. If anyone can break the Kenyan-Skah domination, it is Fita Bayesa, of Ethiopia, whose finishing speed, like Skah's, is suited to the fast going.

The women's field is the most competitive assembled. Lynn Jennings, a Bostonian, seeking her fourth successive victory, summed it up: "Any one of ten could win it." Among them is Liz McColgan, twice in the first three but never champion. Last year, while ill, she was 41st. "That hurt my ego," she said. "I have something to prove."

Zola Pieterse, who had claimed a top-ten place would do, hardened that up yesterday. "I always go into a race with the attitude of winning," she said. The others will be watching her like the Kenyans watch Skah.

United States close to Davis Cup defeat

THE United States tennis team, holders of the Davis Cup, trembled yesterday on the verge of defeat after losing the first two matches to Australia in the first-round tie in Melbourne. Mark Woodforde and Wally Masur took full advantage of the below-strength American team to set up the chance of outright victory in today's doubles.

Woodforde, recalled after three years, beat David Wheaton 3-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4. Masur gave the Australians a great start by beating Brad Gilbert, the only American with previous Davis Cup experience, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4, 6-2. The survival of the Americans, who won the cup by beating Switzerland last December, rests on Jim Grabb and Richey Reneberg, who play Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge, who won the world doubles championship last year.

Switzerland began badly against India in Calcutta when Jakob Hlasek was beaten 7-5, 6-1, 6-2 by Leander Paes, ranked No. 202 in the world. But Marc Rosset, the Olympic champion, with the help of 24 aces, levelled with a 7-6, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 defeat of Ramesh Krishnan.

Guernsey's world stage

SQUASH: The women's world championship is likely to be held at the King's Club in St Peter Port, Guernsey, next year. The Guernsey Tourist Board is backing a move by local squash entrepreneurs to host a £100,000 event for the Squash Rackets Association of England.

Later stages of the championship would be transferred to the all-transparent show court at the nearby Beau Sejour sports centre.

Aamodt narrows gap

SKIING: Kjetil Andre Aamodt, of Norway, won the final men's World Cup super-giant slalom race of the season in Are, Sweden, yesterday to take the title in the discipline and keep alive his hopes of overhauling Marc Girardelli for the overall crown. Despite Aamodt winning his third World Cup race in succession, Girardelli still leads him by 152 points with two races remaining. Katja Seizinger, of Germany, won the women's race to add the super-G title to the downhill.

Reading look to Osborn

HOCKEY: Teddington can expect strong opposition tomorrow when they visit Reading in the second semi-final of the Royal Bank of Scotland Cup, a match that could well be dominated by two experts at the set-pieces, Phillip McGuire, of Teddington, and Paddy Osborn, Reading's sharpshooter. Sutton Coldfield's AEWHA Cup quarter-final against Exmouth is their last competitive fixture before they defend their European Cup Winners' cup title.

Doyle's contract ended

GOLF: Andrea Doyle's troubled 18-month tenure as executive director of the Women Professional Golfers' European Tour ended yesterday with an announcement that her contract had been terminated. The New Zealand player, Janice Arnold, has resigned as chairman of the tour's board of directors. Terry Coates, a member of the board for the past year, has been appointed chairman and will carry out the duties of chief executive "in the foreseeable future".

Professional approach

EQUESTRIANISM: A determined move to lift world showjumping to a more professional level was launched yesterday in Zurich. A series of events to be known as the Professional Showjumping Association Tour, worth about £1.75 million, will start in 1994. It is envisaged that the prize-money will go up each year to exceed £6 million by the turn of the century. The venture has the backing of international riders, owners and sponsors.

Price maintains leading role after rivals falter

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PONTE VEDRA, FLORIDA

THE birdie madness continued on the second day of The Players Championship at Sawgrass yesterday as Florida's notorious winds continued to lie low and rain softened the course.

Records galore were set in the first round, with 45 players under 70, breaking the previous mark of 33 set last year. Back in 1984, when the course was tougher and meaner and had the players squealing for mercy, only two people broke 70 out of the whole field.

On Thursday, 110 players managed to match, or better, the par of 72 — 28 more than achieved that feat last year.

Kirk Triplett and Nick Price, who led after rounds of 64, eight under par, equalled the best first round ever and yesterday, Price at least continued on the birdie trail.

He scored 68 to finish two shots clear of Doug Tewell, who had his second successive 67, to post a total of 134, ten under. Greg Norman was on eight under after a 70.

Tewell, whose last tournament victory, was the Pensacola Open in 1987, was not the man any sane person would have picked to do well this week. He had played in six events this season and failed to beat the cut in five of them.

He put his revelatory form down to a new putter he acquired earlier this week and to attempting to emulate the near-legendary putting stroke of Ben Crenshaw, who won at Bay Hill last week.

Triplett, who has played in Asia, Australia and Canada, and who has never won on the US tour, will not be breaking his duck this week. After his day of days, he had an early morning nightmare yesterday, going out in 38 and coming home in 40 for a sorry, soggy 78 that was 14 strokes worse than his score of the first day.

Another man having a bad day was José María Olazábal, the Spaniard for long touted as the best young player in the world. Clad in suitably sombre charcoal grey, to match the weather and, presumably, his mood, he was a pale shadow of the man who wowed the Americans when he won the NEC World Series of Golf by a massive margin in 1990. He added a 73 to the opening 78 which had scuppered his chances.

Only John Daly, one of Olazábal's playing partners, had scored worse, opening with a 79. The intense young Spaniard missed a birdie putt of three feet at the short 13th, which would have taken him to one under par. Three holes later he was six over. He was in the water at the 14th and 15th and in the trees at the 16th: six, seven, six — double bogey, triple bogey, bogey.

There more sparkle yesterday as Daly made a run at making the cut. Striding out, head down, determined to salvage a little something from the morass, he finished in 66.

EARLY SECOND-ROUND LEADERS (US unless stated): 132: N Price (Zim), 64, 68. 134: D Tewell, 67, 67. 135: J Edwards, 66, 69. 138: G Norman, 68, 70; B Faibel, 68, 68. 138: D Hammond, 66, 72; D Waldorf, 72, 66; M McCumber, 68, 70. 139: D Pohl, 69, 70; M Smith, 70, 69. 140: V Singh (Fij), 69, 71, Joe Ozaki (Jap), 72, 68, D Mast, 70, 70; R Wrenn, 67, 73. 141: M Reid, 68, 73; M Wiebe, 71, 70; B Mayfair, 73, 68. 142: L Parker, 70, 72; K Triplett, 64, 78; B Lohr, 71, 71; T Lehmann, 69, 73; T Watson, 70, 72. Other scores: 161: J M Olazábal (Sp), 78, 73.

LYNNE SLADKY/AP



Fleeting fame: Triplett, the joint first-round leader, fell back yesterday

Torrance weighs up Ryder Cup option

SAM Torrance led the field after two rounds of the Kronenbourg Open at Salo, Italy, yesterday; his immediate reward being his weight in champagne. But Torrance, 39, who is seven under par after a second round 68, is more interested in the £33,330 first prize, which will boost his chances of making the Ryder Cup team for a seventh successive match.

Torrance has not won a European Tour event since the Jersey Open in 1991 and is in 31st place in the cup points table. But he is determined to be at The Belfry in September.

He goes into the third round today with a two-stroke lead over Constantino Rocca, of Italy, three ahead of Craig Cassells and four ahead of David Gilford, the winner of two events this year, and Thomas Gogele, of Germany.

Andrew Sherborne, who had led the field after a first round 67, fell away with 77 to go back to level par.

Torrance was lucky with the weather for, out early, he was through nine holes before the wind got up. His prediction that the wind would make it tough for the later starters was justified, though Gilford battled through the worst of the weather for a superb round of 69; Rocca shot a 70.

Torrance had five birdies and only one bogey, at the eighth, where he three-putted from just off the green.

LEADERS AFTER TWO ROUNDS (GB and Ireland unless stated): 137: S Torrance, 69, 68. 139: C Rocca (It), 69, 70. 140: C Cassells, 71, 69. 141: T Gogele (Ger), 70, 71; D Gilford, 72, 69. 142: S Bowman (US), 71, 71. 143: S McAllister, 70, 73; D Ray, 75, 68; M Moreno (Sp), 70, 73; R Claydon, 69, 74. 144: J Sickerton, 69, 75; L Jones, 71, 73; B Marchbank, 72, 72; I Garbutt, 74, 70; G Hjerstedt (Swe), 72, 72; P McGinley, 72, 72; M-A Martin (Sp), 74, 70; J Haeggman (Swe), 70, 74; A Sherborne, 67, 77; D Hospital (Sp), 69, 75.

Promising Davy Blake eyes Worcester

POINT-TO-POINT
BY BRIAN BEEL

AFTER Davy Blake extended his unbeaten sequence to five at Kelso on Wednesday, his owner, Norman Dalgetty, confirmed that The Times Rising Stars final at Worcester on April 14 is still an objective.

Decisions for owners are, however, never easy. Davy Blake handled the good to firm going well at Kelso, but is unlikely to be asked to run on such ground again at this stage of the season.

If rain comes next week, Davy Blake will return to Kelso in nine days' time for a third appearance, to compete in the Scottish Champion Hunter Chase. But a victory here could rule him out of The Times final as his penalty would increase to 10lb, a burden considered too great for the six-year-old.

In consequence, I am not alone in hoping that the sun continues to shine on the Scottish borders while Worcester enjoys a spell of rain — but not too much to cause Sheer Jest to be an absentee.

Michael Dun, who expressed delight in the improvement of Davy Blake's jumping on Wednesday, has a busy afternoon today with six possible rides at the Duke of Buccleuch's.

Alnwick maiden winner, Ynor, will have the top-of-the-ground conditions needed and could go well in the restricted. Super Trucker has failed to complete in two outings this term, but should not be dismissed lightly for the PPOA. Dun's other rides include Gunmetal Boy, who has a fine chance in the open, and Hunter Country, who will have his work cut out to beat Owd Henry in the BMW.

The course at Mollington has been watered and after inspecting it Angie Murray will decide whether to give a confidence-booster to Radical Views in the Grafton open. He suffered no harm in his second-fence fall in the Foxhunter Chase at the Cheltenham festival — his only fall in 14 outings — and neither did The Red One, whom be brought down.

The Red One left the hunter chase scene to win a novice chase, partnered by Stephen Swiers, at Stratford on Thursday, and is destined next for a handicap chase at Wetherby on Easter Monday.



Swiers: Stratford win with The Red One

Today's fixtures

Belvoir, Garthorpe, 5 miles east of Melton Mowbray (first race 1.45). Cleveland, Wilton Castle, 3m W of Bishop Auckland (1.00). Cotton-on-Teme, Upper Sapey, 6m N of Bromyard (1.30). Crawley and Horsham, Partridge Green, 3m SE of Pulborough (1.30). Duke of Buccleuch's, Friars Haugh, 1m S of Kelso (1.30). Easton Hamerton, Upton, 7m NE of Colchester (1.30). Grafton, Mollington, 5m N of Banbury (12.00). Lamerton, Kelworthy, 2m NE of Tavistock (12.00). Llandeilo Farmers, Bow Lon, 10m N of Carmarthen (12.30). Llanybbry, Howick, 2m W of Chepstow (1.00). Meynell and South Staffs, Sanden, 4m SE of Stone (1.00). WWH, Stockington, 2m S of Cirencester (1.30). Wastoll and Barwell, Wilston, 1m E of Essen (1.00). Wilton, Badbury Rings, 5m SE of Blandford (1.30).

Pitman chaser put down after fracture

By MICHAEL SEELY

THE Illywhacker was put down at Upper Lambourn yesterday after it had been discovered that Jenny Pitman's chaser had sustained a hairline fracture of his nearfore.

At the Cheltenham festival, the eight-year-old had fallen heavily eight fences from home in the Cathcart Cup, won by Second Schedual.

"He was examined by the racecourse vet, and almost daily since he arrived home," Mrs Pitman said yesterday. "Apart from being a little stiff, there didn't seem anything wrong with him. Then this morning we suddenly saw him bolding his leg in the air in the paddock. And the injury was soon apparent."

This season, The Illywhacker beat Young Hustler at Worcester and earlier was a fine third to The Fellow in the King George VI Chase at Kempton.

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

1.00 Batabanoo.
1.30 Rocket Launcher.
2.00 Shean Alainn.
2.35 Texan Tycoon.
3.10 Solidasarock.
3.45 Maneree.
4.20 Spirit In The Nite.

GOING: FIRM (CHASE COURSE); GOOD TO FIRM (HURDLES) SIS

1.00 LAMBOURN HANDICAP HURDLE (4-Y-O: £6,040: 2m 110yd) (10 runners) BBC1

101 612 SPECTACULAR DAWN 36 (D,BF,S) (P Wolfalot) N Henderson 11-10 ..... C Swan 80
102 32211 FORMAL INVITATION 8 (D,F) (The Plough Partnership) D Nicholson 11-6 W Marston (5) 83
103 131511 BATABANOO 7 (D,F,G,S) (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 11-5 ..... P Niven 89
104 362 THINKING TWICE 24 (Maltsters Mild Partnership) N Henderson 11-0 ..... J Osborne 84
105 101620 MY SENOR 43 (CD,S) (I Maloney) M Madgwick 10-6 ..... A Maguire 95
106 611 ALBEMIRE 10 (D,F) (P Burrell) Mrs J Cecil 10-0 ..... T Kent 95
107 1041 SECOND CALL 15 (D,F,S) (Park Farm Thoroughbreds) G Harwood 10-0 ..... M Perrett 97
108 331316 ROYAL PRINT 161 (D,F,G) (Cellarrex Partnership) W Muir 10-0 ..... S McNeill 90
109 144 DAMIER BLANC 37 (B,D,S) (Trevor Painting) M Pipe 10-0 ..... D Richmond (5) 93
110 400451 MASTER REACH 8 (D,F) (F Allison) Miss K Allison 10-0 ..... M Hourigan (3) 88

Long handicap: Second Call 9-3, Royal Print 9-8, Damier Blanc 9-8, Master Reach 9-5.

BETTING: 6-4 Batabanoo, 9-2 Second Call, 6-1 Spectacular Dawn, 7-1 Formal Invitation, 8-1 Albemire, Thinking Twice. 16-1 others.

1992: CADENCY 4-10-1 R Campbell (100-30) M Tompkins 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

SPECTACULAR DAWN 1½l 2nd of 5 to Indian Run in a novice hurdle at Sandown last time out (2m 110yd, good).
FORMAL INVITATION beat Trumpet 12l in a 5-runner novice hurdle at Wolverhampton (2m 110yd, good to firm). Previously, beat Esther 4l in a 13-runner novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m, good to firm). BATABANOO beat Brambleberry 4l in a 10-runner handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good to firm). THINKING TWICE 4l 2nd of 13 to Holy Wanderer in a novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, good to firm). ALBEMIRE beat The Can Can Man 4l in an 8-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to firm).
SECOND CALL beat Andean 12l in a 5-runner novice handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, firm).
Selection: BATABANOO

1.30 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN TROPHY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£7,002: 2m 4f) (6 runners) BBC1

201 42141P ROCKET LAUNCHER 10 (CD,F,S) (W O'Gorman) D Elsworth 7-11-10 ..... P Holley 89
202 B3B232 GRANGE BRAKE 42 (B,D,C,S) (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-10.. D Biddlecombe 89
203 2-121P4 FLYING ZIAD 14 (C,D,F,S,S) (Mrs K Curtis) R Curtis 10-11-9 ..... D Morris 92
204 PP32P6 ELITES-ESS 80 (B,D,F) (D Johnson) R Weaver 8-11-5 ..... A Maguire 80
205 3P/SP63 KILKILMARTIN 14 (H Mayness) H Mayness 11-10-7 ..... A Tory 95
206 6P0F42 EXPOUND 8 (B,G) (E Bettles) B Jackes 8-10-5 ..... W Humphreys 80

BETTING: 11-8 Rocket Launcher, 2-1 Grange Brake, 5-2 Flying Ziad, 15-4 Kilkilmartin, 20-1 Expound, 33-1 Elites-Ess.

1992: GLEN CHERRY 6-10-2 C Llewellyn (7-1) T Forster 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROCKET LAUNCHER beat South Harvest 4l in a 9-runner novice chase over course and distance on penultimate start (5m). GRANGE BRAKE 15l 2nd of 8 to Clayton Finch in a novice chase at Ludlow (3m 2f, good to soft). FLYING ZIAD 9¼l 4th of 5 to Pats Minstrel in a novice chase at Sandown (3m, firm). ELITES-ESS 12l 2nd of 5 to Shilong Edge in a novice chase at Fakenham in October (2m 110yd, good). KILKILMARTIN 5¼l 3rd of 7 to Pilmy Glance in a novice handicap chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, good to firm).
EXPOUND 30l 2nd of 3 to Boarding School in a novice chase at Wolverhampton last time out (2m, good to firm).
Selection: ROCKET LAUNCHER

2.00 HOECHST PANACUR EBF MARES NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (Final: £8,884: 2m 5f) (13 runners) BBC1

301 45-2121 KIWI VELOCITY 44 (C,S) (A Stoddart) P Hobbs 6-11-13 ..... Mr G Lewis (7) 97
302 1412 WILD BRAMBLE 24 (BF,S) (J Mernagh) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 ..... J Codd (7) 92
303 3-431P1 FANTASY WORLD 37 (G,S) (F Welch) J Gifford 7-11-4 ..... D Murphy 92
304 4-21P33 IMA DELIGHT 24 (D,S) (Mrs P Sly) Mrs P Sly 8-11-0 ..... A Carroll 84
305 6-F1022 HEATHFIELD GALE 10 (BF,S) (A Pond) M Pipe 6-10-9 ..... J Lower 90
306 0/21 SHEAN ALAINN 38 (D,S) (Express Mens Care Racing) Mrs M Reveley 5-10-8 A Maguire 85
307 50-0431 SYLVIA BEACH 21 (F,S) (G Greenwood) P Murphy 7-10-7 ..... E Murphy 86
308 412210 COOMBESBURY LANE 103 (D,F,S) (N McGilligan) P Jones 7-10-5 ..... D Leahy (5) 89
309 25-0316 MYTHICAL STORM 24 (G) (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-5 ..... P Niven 89
310 52332P PRUDENT PEGGY 22 (BF) (Mrs J McCormick) R Frost 6-10-2 ..... J Frost 95
311 4P2P01 POWER HAPPY 15 (F) (Mrs S Moss) F Yardley 8-10-0 ..... D Gallagher 93
312 0P521 TAREESH 14 (D,G) (Oxclotter Racing Partnership) K Bailey 6-10-0 ..... J McCarthy (5) 89
313 60000 WHATMORECANIASKFOR 77 (bl, First) G Charles-Jones 5-10 0 ..... D Meade (7) —

Long handicap: Power Happy 9-11, Tareesh 9-7, Whatmorecanlaskfor 8-10.

BETTING: 4-1 Shean Alainn, 5-1 Mystical Storm, Sylvia Beach, 6-1 Fantasy World, 8-1 Tareesh, 10-1 Heathfield Gale, 12-1 Kiwi Velocity, 14-1 Power Happy, Wild Bramble, 16-1 others.

1992: SNITTON LANE 8-10-11 N Williamson (10-1) J Edwards 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

KIWI VELOCITY beat HEATHFIELD GALE (17lb better off) 6l in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6l, good). WILD BRAMBLE 6l 2nd to Strasson Juliette in a novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6l, good), with PRUDENT PEGGY tailed off when pulled up before 2 out. MYTHICAL STORM beat Sarona Smith 4l in a novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 1f 110yd, good). PRUDENT PEGGY 10l 2nd to La Princessa in a novice hurdle at Newton Abbot in January (2m 6l, soft), with FANTASY WORLD (16lb worse off) 4l 3rd and HEATHFIELD GALE (7lb worse off) 25l 5th. POWER HAPPY beat Five Stars 6l in a 9-runner novice hurdle at Worcester (2m, firm).
Selection: KIWI VELOCITY

2.35 NORMAN GREEN BIRTHDAY NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,553: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

401 32-40 COOLEY'S VALVE 35 (R Schlagman) N Henderson 5-11-7 ..... C Swan 89
402 320-252 TEXAN TYCOON 84 (BF) (R Gorenstein) R Akehurst 5-11-7 ..... G McCourt 94
403 P/P0 BETTA WIN 15 (Mrs L Smith) D Williams 9-11-2 ..... J Doggan —
404 95- DERECHEF 336 (R Warner) Mrs J Reiter 6-11-2 ..... E Tierney (5) 89
405 ELAINE TULLY 204F (F Salesbury) M Heaton-Ellis 5-11-2 ..... S Keightley —
406 3/4- MARY O'REILLY 306 (J Cowling) W Musa 8-11-2 ..... Mr D Vasco 85
407 P BID FOR SIX 37 (Cross Lozaine Ltd) G Thorner 4-11-0 ..... D Bridgwater —
408 2 BRIMPTON BEBTIE 12 (Brimpton Holdings Ltd) D Chappell 4-11-0 ..... J Railton 76
409 424U KING'S TREASURE 14 (P Mellon) I Balding 4-11-0 ..... J Frost 98

BETTING: 8-4 Texan Tycoon, 2-1 King's Treasure, 11-2 Elaine Tully, 13-2 Cooley's Valve, 14-1 others.

1992: KALOSY 5-10-13 M A Fitzgerald (5-1) Mrs J Reiter 18 ran

3.10 BROWN CHAMBERLIN HANDICAP CHASE (£6,044: 3m) (3 runners)

501 4-53235 SOLIDASAROCK 89 (CD,F,G,S) (L Rozdel) R Akehurst 11-11-10 ..... G McCourt 98
502 664341 RIVER HOUSE 7 (D,F,G,S) (P Cheesbrough) P Cheesbrough 11-11-4 Mr A Thornton (5) 99
503 U113/3-2 ABBOTSHAM 10 (D,F,S,S) (O Carter) O Carter 8-10-10 ..... J Frost 95

BETTING: 13-8 River House, 7-4 Abbotsham, 2-1 Solidasarock.

1992: ARTIC CALL 9-12-6 J Osborne (7-2) O Sherwood 6 ran

3.45 NORMAN GREEN BIRTHDAY NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £2,532: 2m 110yd) (13 runners)

501 ANTAGONIST 539F (R Strange) R Strange 6-11-7 ..... D Gallagher —
502 529- IL BAMBINO 208 (BF) (R Mennem) H Mennem 5-11-7 ..... A Tory 74
503 66 JULIUS GENIUS 29 (Mrs P Jubert) J Gifford 6-11-7 ..... D Murphy 74
504 23P OLD BRIDGE 21 (BF) (R Mackenzie) A Terrell 5-11-7 ..... S McNeill 94
505 0 PROPAGANDA 84 (Lord Tavistock) H Needham 5-11-7 ..... J Osborne —
506 36 ROSS GRAHAM 21 (BF) (C Hirschmann) Mrs B Waring 5-11-7 ..... N Mann 88
507 003/4 ROYAL FOOL 19 (R Craig) O Sherwood 7-11-7 ..... J McCarthy (5) 90
508 445-645 SCHRAB 39 (Mrs J Nicholas) N Twiston-Davies 5-11 7 ..... C Maude 98
509 1133-00 MANEREE 71 (D,S,S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 8-11-2 ..... A Maguire 97
510 ROMARISH 163F (J Davey Bowring) Miss J Doyle 4-11-0 ..... S Curran (7) —
511 SALISONG 258F (J Franklin) I Campbell 4-11-0 ..... R Campbell —
512 THAKAWAH 288F (W Sturt) J Old 4-11-0 ..... T Grantham —
513 P05 THREEBUCK CREEK 12 (J Gough) R Ingram 4-11-0 ..... S Arnold —

BETTING: 9-4 Old Bridge, 4-1 Julius Genius, 5-1 Propaganda, Ross Graham, 7-1 Maneree, 16-1 others.

1992: STREET KID 4-11-8 Mr G Johnson Houghton (50-1) R Johnson Houghton 11 ran

4.20 SPRING NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£2,136: 2m 110yd) (17 runners)

1 CONNAUGHT CRUSADER (Connaught Group Ltd) P Hobbs 5-11-7 ..... NON-RUNNER —
2 COUNTRY KEEPER (B Ryall) B Ryall 5-11-7 ..... T Thompson (7) —
3 D DOWRY SQUARE 48 (Mrs Chisholm) P Murphy 5-11-7 ..... D Gallagher (7) —
4 FIRE AND BEEM (A Cobbold) P Nicholls 5-11-7 ..... D Bohan (7) —
5 IN THE CINESKE (Lord Calthorpe) W Henderson 5-11-7 ..... Mr T Jenks (5) —
6 0/ MAHADMACDAT 749 (C Billingham) Mrs J Reiter 5-11-7 ..... Mr C Vigors (7) —
7 50 MASTER KIWI 46 (Mrs J Robotham) M Pipe 5-11-7 ..... E Tierney (5) —
8 PRINCE OF PREY (G Mead) T Thomson Jones 5-11-7 ..... D Richmond (5) —
9 QUARRY HOUSE (Mrs E Chappell) D Chappell 5-11-7 ..... D Geoghegan (5) —
10 RASTHNE BOY (R Barnett) C Barwell 5-11-7 ..... Mr P Mackenzie —
11 RAW COMMODITY (M Worcester) S Sherwood 5-11-7 ..... B Clifford —
12 04- DEVONIAN 15 (G Libson) Miss J Doyle 4-11-0 ..... Mr J Durkan —
13 04 DIAMOND PROSPECTOR 45 (M Watson) A Hide 4-11-0 ..... S Curran (7) —
14 FRIENDLY FELLOW (Whitecombe Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 4-11-0 ..... W Marston (5) —
15 GAVASKOR (Highflyers) G Balding 4-11-0 ..... A Procter (5) —
16 2 SPIRIT IN THE NITE 14 (Mrs T Pilkington) J Gifford 4 11-0 ..... Mr G Lewis (7) —
17 4 FLAMEWOOD 83 (Mrs S Thomson Jones) Mrs D Haine 4-10-9 ..... C Huggan (7) —

BETTING: 2-1 Spirit In The Nite, 4-1 Gavaskor, 13-2 Flamewood, 8-1 Friendly Fellow, 10-1 others.

1992: RIVA 5-11-3 R Greene (8-1) D Barons 19 ran

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.20 Dance On Sixpence. 2.50 Respectable Jones. 3.25 North Esk. 3.55 Awesome Power. 4.25 Quinsigimond. 5.00 Comet Whirlpool.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.20 WELLINGTON HANDICAP (£2,322: 7f) (10 runners)

1 3113 GUNGA MARTIN 9 (V,CD,G) D Haydn Jones 5-13-0 S McCarthy (7) 5
2 1013 NOBBY BARNES 21 (C) D Wilson 4-9-12 ..... G Duffield 2
3 3324 SCOTS LAW 21 (B,C,D,F) P O'Sullivan 5-9-5 ..... J Weaver (3) 8
4 3256 SARUBI 21 (C,F) C Wildman 7-9-4 ..... C Rutter 3
5 40-0 DANCE ON SIXPENCE 21 (V,D,F,G) H Collingridge 5-9-4 V Smith 7
6 0-05 SUNSET STREET 11 (E,D,F,G) C Dore 5-9-3 ..... W Ryan 6
7 3-55 LADY ROXANNE 29 (BF) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-2 ..... W Newnes 9
8 07-3 ZINSKO 11 (D,F,G,S) C Spencer 7-9-1 ..... S O'Gorman 5
9 03-6 LITMORE DANCER 11 J Bradley 5-8-2 ..... F Norton (3) 1
10 -250 LOOTING 22 (CD,F,G,S) M Usher 7-7-10 ..... Kim McDonnell (7) 10

7-2 Nobby Barnes, 4-1 Gunga Martin, 9-2 Scots Law, 5-1 Zinsko, 6-1 others.

2.50 ADAM SWEET THING KEAN CLAIMING STAKES (£1,682: 6f) (4)

1 1152 CRECHE 3 (B,C,D) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-10 ..... E Hubbard (7) 4
2 2033 RESPECTABLE JONES 11 (CD,BF,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-9-8 W Ryan 3
3 1130 SOBA GUEST 42 (CD,BF,F,G,S) J Berry 4-9-6 Emma O'Gorman (3) 2
4 50 LOON BU R O'Sullivan 5-9-2 ..... J Weaver (3) 1

5-4 Respectable Jones, 6-4 Creche, 7-2 Soba Guest, 20-1 Loon.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Berry, 13 winners from 48 runners, 32.5%; R Hollinshead, 11 from 36, 30.6%; Lord Huntingdon, 14 from 47, 29.8%; M Pressley, 15 from 68, 22.1%; M Johnston, 17 from 82, 20.7%
JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 4 winners from 12 rides, 33.3%; Emma O'Gorman, 32 from 133, 24.1%; G Duffield, 27 from 138, 19.6%; S O'Gorman, 14 from 84, 16.7%; B Raymond, 4 from 24, 16.7%

3.25 DAILY STAR CHALLENGE HANDICAP (£2,684: 1m 2f) (9)

1 5005 NORTH ESK 21 (F) D Allan 4-9-10 ..... W Newnes 9
2 -133 LOWAWATHA 28 (CD) D Morris 5-9-3 ..... M Tebbutt 3
3 -212 GOLD BLADE 28 (CD,BF) N Bycroft 4-9-6 ..... W Ryan 7
4 1410 PIGALLE WONDER 11 (B,CD) R O'Sullivan 5-9-6 J Weaver (3) 5
5 5-51 NATIVE CHIEFTAIN 28 (C,D,G) S Dow 4-9-5 ..... F Norton (3) 1
6 4-22 SET THE FASHION 11 (V,BF) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-10 G Duffield 6
7 020- HIGHTOWN PRINCESS 156 (V) M Meggeridge 5-7-10 Kim McDonnell (7) 4
8 0006 MODESTO 23 (B,CD,G,S) N Cunningham-Brown 5-7-10 A Garth (5) 2
9 3303 PREMIER DANCE 11 (CD) D Haydn Jones 6-7-10 S McCarthy (7) 8

7-2 Gold Blade, 4-1 Native Chieftain, 9-2 Lowawatha, 5-1 Set The Fashion, 9-1 Pigalle Wonder, 8-1 North Esk, 10-1 Premier Dance, 12-1 others.

3.55 HALIFAX HANDICAP (£3,055: 1m 4f) (6)

1 4222 AWESOME POWER 23 (C,BF,S) J Hills 7-10-0 ..... W Ryan 6
2 010- MAJESTIC IMAGE 151 (F,G,S) Lord Huntingdon 7-9-11 J Williamson (7) 2
3 00-5 MR WISHBIG SPELL 70 (CD,S) S Dow 7-8-0 ..... C Rutter 3
4 2541 LA REINE ROUGE 11 (CD) Mrs A Knight 5-7-12 F Norton (3) 4
5 1504 BEAM ME UP SCOTTY 83 (CD) P Mitchell 4-7-12 S O'Gorman 1
6 516- DAY OF HISTORY 149 (C,D,G,S) C Cyzer 4-7-7 ..... Dale Gibson 5

5-2 Awesome Power, 3-1 Majestic Image, 4-1 La Reine Rouge, 5-1 Mr Wishbig Well, 5-1 Beam Me Up Scotty, 8-1 Day Of History.

4.25 ALPINE MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (£2,880: 3-Y-O: 6f) (6)

1 4425 MUSICAL PHASE 19 (B,BF) J Leigh 9-0 ..... D Nicholls 4
2 SLEEPTITE C Cyzer 9-0 ..... W Newnes 1
3 TOP GUNNER C Cyzer 9-0 ..... W Ryan 2
4 HALL BANK COTTAGE M Johnston 8-9 ..... R P Elliott 5
5 LITTLE MISS RIBOT R C Sullman 8-9 ..... J Weaver (3) 3
6 523- QUINSIGMOND 141 M Prescott 8-9 ..... G Duffield 6

5-4 Quinsigmond, 9-4 Hall Bank Cottage, 5-1 Musical Phase, 8-1 Top Gunner, 12-1 Little Miss Ribot, 16-1 Sleeptite.

5.00 STIRLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,154: 5f) (4)

1 1145 THE INSTITUTE BOY 11 (B,CD) K Burke 9-7 ..... S Webster 2
2 2221 PURBECK CENTENARY 28 (C) P Howling 9-2 ..... W Newnes 1
3 2422 COMET WHIRLPOOL 22 (B) Pat Mitchell 8-11 ..... S O'Gorman 3
4 000- PRESS THE BELL 173 (D,F) J Berry 8-6 ..... G Duffield 4

7-4 Comet Whirlpool, 5-2 The Institute Boy, 3-1 Purbeck Centenary, 9-2 Press The Bell.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
I Balding	5	13	38.5	P Holley	14	60	23.3
M Pipe	28	98	28.5	J Osborne	26	146	17.8
G Harwood	6	24	25.0	M Perrett	14	84	16.7
T Thomson Jones	6	26	23.1	G McCourt	11	68	16.2
O Sherwood	22	99	22.2	J Frost	12	91	13.2
D Nicholson	24	110	21.8	A Maguire	5	43	11.6

Buzzards Bellbuoy warrants tip

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

IMMY Quinn can emulate ie riding performances of cobie Breasley, Sandy Baray and Edward Hide by inning the William Hill incoln for the second uccessive year today on Buzzards Bellbuoy.

As fate would have it, High ow, whom the lightweight ckey partnered to victory 12 ionths ago in the first big andicap of the Flat season, rovided a valuable pointer to is chances of achieving the otable double during a midveek workout on the Newiarket gallops.

The Hugh Collingridge-ained Buzzards Bellbuoy easy accounted for High Low, hom William Haggas subsequently withdrew from today's ice.

The confidence-boosting allop, allied with improved rm shown in the second half last season, gives the fourar-old more than a sporting iance on a course where he as always run well.

He meets two of the vourites, Mizaaya and mazing Feat, on 23 and 13lb etter terms respectively folwing narrow defeats last rm. In his last race of the ason, at Doncaster, he failed only a length to peg back nazing Feat.

More significantly, ollingridge and Quinn discovered the best way to race the horse. After making all the running in earlier victories at Newmarket and Yarmouth, Buzzards Bellbuoy turned in his best performance having been held up off the pace.

Collingridge, who landed the 1982 Royal Hunt Cup with the selection's sire, Buzzards Bay, said yesterday: "He was a little bit slow coming to hand through January, but in the last three weeks he has really blossomed and is travelling like a dream. I could not be more pleased with him and Jimmy Quinn knows the horse inside out."

Nap: Buzzards Bellbuoy
(3.40 Doncaster)
Next best: Majority
(5.15 Doncaster)

Significantly, the sponsors cut Buzzards Bellbuoy from 33-1 to 16-1 yesterday.

Arguments about the draw on Doncaster's straight mile continued yesterday after the William Hill Spring Mile, the Lincoln overflow race, was won in decisive style by Cee-Jay-Ay, drawn 16, who came up the middle of the track to complete a 1,000-1 treble for Jack Berry and stable jockey, John Carroll. To confuse matters, *Heniu* and *Kissavos*, second and third, came up the stands side while Indian Slave finished a close fourth on the other side of the track.

Carroll is due to partner bottom weight Laurel Queen, drawn *seven and also trained* by Berry, in the Lincoln.

"Ideally, I'd prefer to be *drawn on the stands side*, because I reckon it's a bit faster there," he said. "I rode on the *far side* on Thursday, and they were kicking the top inch off the surface."

However, discovering where the pace is like to come from in today's race may be more significant. With the possible exception of High Premium, there are few horses drawn low which cut out the running and that could be to the disadvantage of Spencers Revenge, drawn one, who has *improved markedly on the all*-weather during the winter.

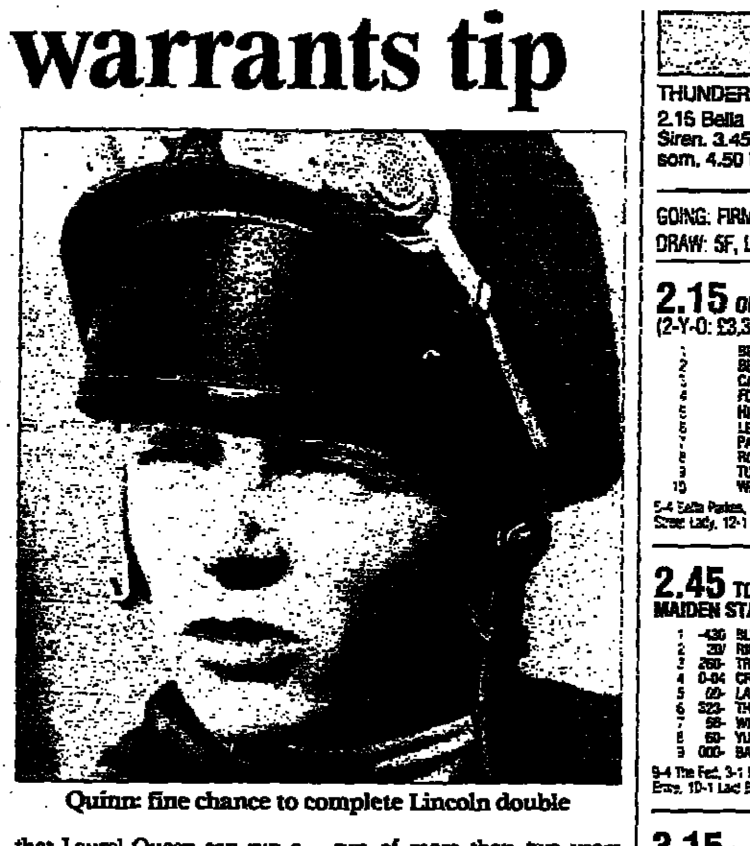
Carroll, after partnering Cee-Jay-Ay, said: "He's a horse who likes to come from behind. You've got to let him build himself up for a challenge, and he loves going through tight spaces."

Berry described his gelding as "a little ruffian, who likes a scrap. I knew Cee-Jay-Ay was in good heart. All my horses *are really well and I'm hopeful* that Laurel Queen can run a big race in the Lincoln."

The Cockerham trainer had earlier seen his second juvenile runner at the meeting, Best Kept Secret, take the opening seller in clear-cut style and said: "Best Kept Secret is not very big, but he's a sharp little *thing and can win again.*"

The middle leg of the Berry-Carroll treble was provided by *Gorinsky*. He ended a losing run of more than two years when leading all the way in the Holroyd Construction Group Handicap.

Sumoto, second favourite for the 1,000 Guineas on *April 29, has been taken out of* the betting following an injury which is believed to be a recurrence of a hock problem. Geoffrey Wragg, her trainer, is carrying out X-rays on the filly this morning.



Quinn: fine chance to complete Lincoln double

[DONCASTER]

THUNDERER
0 Maiden Effort. 0 Friendly Brave. 0 Shambo. 3.40 Ashdren. 4.15 THOURIOS (nap). 4.45 Bezique. 5.15 Majority.
r Newmarket Correspondent: 3.40 Buzzards Bellbuoy. 45 Bezique. 5.15 DEBOS (nap).
e Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 0 SPENCER'S REVENGE.

ING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
AW: 5F-1M STRAIGHT, HIGH NUMBERS BEST; ROUND COURSE, LOW MBERS HAVE SLIGHT ADVANTAGE

.00 EBF SUPERPOWER MAIDEN STAKES
-Y-0: £3,289: 5f) (8 runners)
(3) BOLD ARISTOCRAT (Mrs J Hughes) R Hollinshead 9-0 S Perks —
(8) JASARI (The Winning Team) R Hannon 9-0 Pat Eddery —
(4) MONKEY MAGIC (The Monkey Racing Club Ltd) J Berry 9-0 J Carroll —
(5) CAPE MERINO (H Ellis) A Smith 8-9 M Birch —
(2) HILL FARM KATIE (D Newton) P Evans 8-9 L Dettori —
(6) MAIDEN EFFORT (W Gredley) N Wright 8-9 M Roberts —
(1) MUCKROSS PARK (A White) K Hogg 8-9 A Munro —
(7) SWEET WHISPER (P Savill) R Hannon 8-9 K Darley —
ING: 3-1 Monkey Magic, 7-2 Jasari, 4-1 Sweet Whisper, 6-1 Maiden Effort, 7-1 Muckross Park, 8-1 Bold tocrat, 12-1 Hill Farm Katie, 20-1 Cape Merino.
1992: OTHER ONE 8-9 G Duffield (25-1) N Wright 10 ran

30 RACEFORM HORSES IN TRAINING MAIDEN STAKES
-0: £3,348: 6f) (10 runners)
(4) 43- ABLE CHOICE 252 (C Li) R Armstrong 9-0 L Piggott 96
(5) - EXPORT MONDIAL (Y Hang) J Eustace 9-0 L Dettori —
(7) 3424- FLASHMAN 141 (P Asquith) F Lee 9-0 M Roberts 86
(8) 30345- FRIENDLY BRAVE 239 (T Mills) T Mills 9-0 Pat Eddery [illegible]
(6) 35230- GARNOCK VALLEY 190 (R Aird) J Berry 9-0 J Carroll 94
(10) 3- GRAN SENORUM 245 (F Salman) P Cole 9-0 A Munro 97
(3) 6- RED FAN 261 (J Allbritton) J Watts 9-0 N Connorton 79
(1) 00- SOLO CHARTER 148 (B Schmidt-Bodner) M Tompkins 9-0 P Robinson 75
(9) 062004- FOLLY VISION 158 (Bezwell Fixings Ltd) R Hannon 8-9 J Reid 97
(2) 2500-85 MAGICATION 36 (Mrs S Allen) J Balding 8-9 Claire Balding (7) 95
ING: 3-1 Gran Senorum, 4-1 Friendly Brave, 5-1 Able Choice, 11-2 Garnock Valley, 10-1 Flashman, Folly , Red Fan, 12-1 Solo Charter, 16-1 Export Mondial, 25-1 Magication.
1992: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

.00 HAYSELDEN AUDI VW DONCASTER SHIELD NDITIONS STAKES (£7,002: 1m 4f) (3 runners) C4
(2) 201580- SHAMBO 154 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 6-9-3 M Roberts 98
(3) 320160- YOUNG BUSTER 161 (C,D,F,G) (Mollers Racing) G Wragg 5-9-2 W R Swinburn [illegible]
(1) 310131 MODEST HOPE 22 (D,F) (J McManamon) R Spicer 6-9-0 A Mackay 74
TING: 4-7 Young Buster, 11-8 Shambo, 25-1 Modest Hope.
1992: LUCHIROVERTE 4-8-13 M Roberts (13-8 fav) C Brittain 8 ran

FORM FOCUS
MBO best effort last term, beat Saplence ½l in p 3 Ibn Bey Geoffrey Freer Stakes at Newbury 5f 61yd, good). YOUNG BUSTER beat Twist Turn 1l in 6-runner stakes race here (1m 2f, good to firm) in July. Earlier 1½l 3rd to Kooyonga, placed 2nd in group 1 Prince of Wales's Stakes at Royal Ascot (1m 2f, good to firm). MODEST HOPE beat Tempering 7l in 6-runner Southwell (AW, 1m 4f) handicap.
Selection: YOUNG BUSTER

.40 WILLIAM HILL LINCOLN HANDICAP C4
8,412: 1m str) (24 runners)
(6) 011000- MIZAAYA 240 (CD,F,G) (Maktoum Al Maktoum) M Stoute 4-9-10 W R Swinburn 80
(11) 015311- AMAZING FEAT 151 (CD,G,S) (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-4 K Darley 86
(13) 021120- ERHARISTO 240 (D,F,G) (Dowager Lady Beaverbrook) C Brittain 4-9-3 M Roberts 87
(2) 530020- BEWARE OF AGENTS 168 (C,F,S) M Johnston 4-9-2 Dean McKeown 83
(21) 51/2421- PETITE-D-ARGENT 294 (F,S) (D Couper) Miss L Perratt 4-9-1 L Piggott 81
(23) 045552- ROYAL SEATON 154 (G,S) (Axminster Carpets Ltd) B Millman 4-8-13 S Whitworth 92
(16) 222202/ WELL APPOINTED 521 (G,F) (T Connors) A Hambly 4-8-9 D Holland —
(10) 4200-53 MERLINS WISH 21 (BF,F) (J Lazzari) R Hannon 4-8-8 B Rouse 92
(14) 5000-00 MASNUN 21 (F,G,S) (I Page) R O'Sullivan 8-8-8 D Biggs 83
(5) 102/500- HIGH PREMIUM 283 (D,F,G) (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-8 K Fallon 88
(4) 000353- RINGLAND 22J (F) (R Moffat) D Moffatt 5-8-7 Darren Moffatt (7) 90
(3) 1-50000 AFRICAN CHIMES 3 (B,F) (D Wheatley) M Chapman 6-8-5 D McCabe (7) 85
(22) 401110- MILLSOLIN 147 (G,S) (Normandy Developments) R Akehurst 5-8-4 G Carter 90
(9) 301240- WILL OF STEEL 141 (S) (K Wheldon) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-4 B Doyle (5) 89
(12) 300430- AKKAZAO 101 (D,F) (J Bird) T Mills 5-8-3 N Gwilliams (5) 89
(20) 03114-0 DASWAKI 21 (CD,F,S) (D Allen) R Hannon 5-8-3 Pat Eddery 96
(24) 111200- GOLDEN CHIP 219 (D,G) (A Jackson) A Stringer 5-8-3 S Maloney (3) 84
(19) 000300- ASHDREN 168 (G,S) (Miss B Ramsden) A Harrison 6-8-3 A Munro 90
(1) 302-211 SPENCER'S REVENGE 28 (D) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-2 (5ex) D Harrison (3) [illegible]
(15) 1/04-44 SHUJAN 9 (C,S) (M Polglase) R Armstrong 4-8-1 R Price 82
(8) 330600- IMPERIAL BID 159 (F,S) (Lord Durham) Denys Smith 5-8-1 L Charnock 87
(18) 211002- BUZZARDS BELLBUOY 155 (D,G,S) (K Gardner) H Collingridge 4-8-1 J Quinn 89
(17) 4128/0- WALKING THE PLANK 341 (D,G) (M White) P Walwyn 4-8-1 P Robinson —
(7) 021100- LAUREL QUEEN 175 (D,F,G,S) (Laurel (Leisure) Ltd) J Berry 5-8-0 J Carroll 86
TING: 6-1 Amazing Feat, 8-1 Mizaaya, Millsolin, 10-1 Erharisto, Petite-D-Argent, 12-1 Spencer's Revenge, 1 Ashdren, Daswaki, 16-1 Beware Of Agents, High Premium, 20-1 Buzzards Bellbuoy, 25-1 others.
1992: HIGH LOW 4-8-0 J Quinn (16-1) W Haggas 24 ran

FORM FOCUS
AMAZING FEAT beat Love Jazz 8l in 12-runner Redcar (7f, heavy) handicap with SPENCER'S REVENGE (3lb better off) 22l 10th. ERHARISTO 9½l 12th of 21 to Little Bean in valuable Goodwood (1m, good to firm) handicap with MIZAAYA (3lb better off) 4½l 16th and DASWAKI (11lb better off) 6l 19th. Earlier beat Bold Boss neck in 23-runner Royal Ascot (1m, good to firm) handicap with MERLINS WISH (15lb better off) tailed off last. PETITE-D-ARGENT beat Mobil 2l in 7-runner Epsom (7f, good to soft) handicap. ROYAL SEATON neck 2nd of 15 to Host in Newbury (1m 1f, soft) handicap.
MERLINS WISH 3l 3rd of 12 to Chatham Island in Lingfield (AW, 1m) handicap with MASNUN (same terms) 3l 7th and DASWAKI (10lb better off) 5l 10th. RINGLAND 3¼l 5th of 19 to Highland Magic in York (7f, good) handicap in October with ASHDREN (2lb better off) 10½l 11th and BEWARE OF AGENTS (2lb better off) 7l 12th. Winning novice hurdler in the winter, MILLSOLIN completed double, beat Caleman 1l in 18-runner Newmarket (7f, good) handicap. Previously beat MERLINS WISH (14lb better off) 2½l in Kempton (7f, good to soft) handicap with SPENCER'S REVENGE (2lb better off) ¾l 3rd. SPENCER'S REVENGE completed double, beat Chevex Mitchell short-head in 7-runner Lingfield (AW, 7f) handicap with MERLINS WISH (7lb worse off) around 1l 5th. LAUREL QUEEN beat Flashy's Son neck in 18-runner Newcastle (7f, good) handicap.
Selection: MERLINS WISH

4.15 CAMMIDGE TROPHY C4
(Listed race: £11,257: 6f) (11 runners)
1 (3) /30331- SWING LOW 125 (D,G,S) (Fieldside Ltd) R Hannon 4-8-9 Pat Eddery 92
2 (2) 455302- FYLDE FLYER 165 (CD,F,G,S) (Blackpool Bazaar) J Berry 4-8-7 J Carroll 95
3 (6) 140314- MONTENDRE 140 (D,F,G) (D Mort) M McCormack 6-8-7 J Reid 98
4 (9) 010252- THOURIOS 183 (V,S) (A Christodoulou) G Harwood 4-9-7 L Piggott [illegible]
5 (7) 1205/40- REGAL CHIMES 326 (F) (M Sturgess) B McMahon 4-9-2 A Munro 73
6 (10) 653000- SPANISH STORM 231 (D,G) (The Storm Syndicate) S Woods 4-9-2 W Woods 84
7 (4) 244511 APPLEDORN 3 (D,F,G) (Mrs B Facchino) B McMahon 6-8-11 L Dettori 86
8 (1) 111156- BRANSTON ABBY 137 (C,D,F,G,S) (J Abell) M Johnston 4-8-11 M Roberts 98
9 (11) 014002- SILCA-CISA 171 (G) (Aldridge Racing Ltd) M Channon 4-8-11 G Carter 85
10 (8) 040030- TAUFAN BLU 171 (B,D,F,G,S) M Johnston 4-8-11 Dean McKeown 88
11 (5) 113135- NIGHT MELODY 191 (C,D,F,G,S) (P Savill) R Hannon 3-8-2 K Darley 79
BETTING: 5-2 Thourios, 4-1 Montendre, 11-2 Fylde Flyer, 6-1 Swing Low, 8-1 Branston Abby, 10-1 Spanish Storm, Taufan Blu, 14-1 Night Melody, 16-1 Silca-Cisa, 20-1 Appledorn, 33-1 Regal Chimes.
1992: FYLDE FLYER 3-8-2 J Carroll (8-1) J Berry 9 ran

FORM FOCUS
SWING LOW 4l 3rd of 9 to Inner City in listed race at Newmarket (1m, good) on penultimate start last year. MONTENDRE 2¼l 4th of 17 to Blyton Lad in listed race over course and distance (good) with APPLEDORN 14th. Previously beat FYLDE FLYER (same terms) 1l in 4-runner Chepstow (6f, good) stakes race. THOURIOS 2½l 2nd of 8 to Sarlerk in group 3 Challenge Stakes at Newmarket (7f, good to firm). APPLEDORN completed double, beat Crache 6l in 7-runner Southwell (AW, 6f) claimer. BRANSTON ABBY completed five-timer on penultimate start with 1¾l defeat of Cantoris in 22-runner handicap here (5f, good). TAUFAN BLU 4l 3rd of 11 to Bazello in listed race at The Curragh (6f, soft) on penultimate start. NIGHT MELODY 8¾l last of 5 to Fyfield Flyer in listed race at Ayr (5f, soft).
Selection: THOURIOS (nap)

4.45 INSUREX EXPO-SURE GROUP HANDICAP C4
(3-Y-0: £4,751: 7f) (9 runners)
1 (9) 342010- PRINCELY FAVOUR 182 (G) (C Hamer) R Hannon 9-7 B Rouse 84
2 (6) 210503- COSTA VERDE 203 (D,S) (A White) K Hogg 9-5 A Munro 91
3 (1) 431- BEZIQUE 152 (B,D,S) (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-3 M Roberts 95
4 (2) 161000- UMBUBUZI 154 (D,G) (F Lee) F Lee 8-11 R Lappin 94
5 (8) 051240- MR BUTCH 156 (F) (G Herridge) M Channon 8-7 Pat Eddery 92
6 (7) 836000- SHADOW JURY 187 (F,G) (P Savill) D Chapman 8-6 K Darley [illegible]
7 (4) 56505- MOVE SMARTLY 140 (P Clinton) F Lee 8-2 G Carter 94
8 (5) 0500- WORDSMITH 159 (R Moody) Mrs J Ramsden 8-1 P Robinson 95
9 (3) 342165 ROSE FLYER 9 (D) (A Packaging Ltd) M Chapman 7-10 S Wood 89
BETTING: 2-1 Bezique, 4-1 Princely Favour, 6-1 Wordsmith, 7-1 Mr Butch, 8-1 Costa Verde, Move Smartly, 12-1 Rose Flyer, Shadow Jury, 14-1 Umbubuzi.
1992: BIG LEAP 8-11 L Dettori (9-1) M Moubarak 21 ran

FORM FOCUS
PRINCELY FAVOUR beat Nabeh neck in 14-runner Lingfield (6f, soft) maiden on penultimate start. COSTA VERDE 2¼l 3rd of 16 to Hi Nod in Thirsk (7f, good to firm) handicap. BEZIQUE beat Fly To The End 8l in 10-runner Lingfield (7f, soft) maiden. MR BUTCH 2¼l 4th of 11 to Birchwood Sun in York (6f, good to soft) handicap on penultimate start. MOVE SMARTLY 3¼l 5th of 21 to Mizaamanies in handicap over course and distance (good). WORDSMITH 4¾l 5th of 17 to Arman's Sax in Leicester (7f, good) maiden in September. ROSE FLYER beat Joslynath 1½l in 8-runner Southwell (AW, 7f) handicap earlier this month.
Selection: BEZIQUE

5.15 MITSUBISHI DIAMOND VISION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-0: £3,494: 1m 2f 60yd) (11 runners)
1 (10) 05482- BROWN'S 158 (F Kalla) P Chapple-Hyam 9-0 L Dettori [illegible]
2 (11) 35- DEBOS 151 (W Scott) M Stoute 9-0 W R Swinburn 89
3 (7) 0- HALMANERROR 130 (Mrs J Smith) C W C Elsey 9-0 J Carroll —
4 (6) 50- KEEP YOUR DISTANCE 213 (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 9-0 Darren Moffatt (7) —
5 (2) 3- MAJORITY 155 (Shaikh Mohammed) B Hills 9-0 M Roberts 92
6 (3) RANZEL (Shaikh Mohammed) J Gosden 9-0 G Hind —
7 (4) 3- RIVER NORTH 159 (Lady Herries) Lady Herries 9-0 K Darley 78
8 (5) 00- SIR EDWARD HENRY 140 (P Barr) F Lee 9-0 R Lappin —
9 (1) 00- WINGS COVE 173 (Lady Herries) Lady Herries 9-0 C Dwyer 87
10 (6) 005- YAHMI 164 (Shaikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) W Hern 9-0 M Hills 88
11 (9) VICTORIAN FLOWER (W Gredley) N Wright 8-9 B Doyle (5) —
BETTING: 11-4 Majority, 4-1 Brown's, Ranzel, 5-1 Debos, 7-1 Yahmi, 10-1 River North, Victorian Flower, 33-1 Keep Your Distance, 50-1 others.
1992: TOUCH PAPER 9-0 S Cauthen (11-8 fav) B Hills 10 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
J Gosden	22	78	28.2	Pat Eddery	39	165	23.6
R Armstrong	7	29	24.1	M Hills	15	99	15.2
B Hills	22	96	22.9	D Harrison	3	20	15.0
M Stoute	13	71	18.3	K Darley	18	141	12.8
Mrs M Reveley	8	48	16.7	M Roberts	22	176	12.5
G Wragg	6	38	15.8	R Lappin	3	24	12.5

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

DONCASTER
C4

3.00: A poor turnout which amounts to a match between Shambo and Young Buster. Michael Roberts will set a strong pace on **Shambo**, and may stretch Young Buster's *stamina sufficiently to gain* the day.

3.40: Ashdren finished fourth in this race last season *and is weighted to again go* close, but may be more effective over seven furlongs. **Buzzards Bellbuoy** was beaten a length by Amazing Feat over a mile here last year, and ought to reverse the *form on 13lb better terms.*

4.15: Thourios ran over seven furlongs for the bulk of last season, but possesses the necessary *speed for this* shorter trip. Appledorn is raised in class but reserves her best for this course and could run well at a big price.

4.45: Bezique won a Lingfield maiden last autumn in good style, but has raced only on soft ground to date. **Move Smartly** had no luck in running when fifth in a *nursery* here last autumn and can make amends.

NEWBURY
BBC1

1.00: *Batabanoo was impressive* when winning at Newcastle last week, but this is a more competitive race. Julie Cecil has done well with her jumpers this season, and **Albemine** has got in *lightly here after two wins in* weak races.

1.30: Rocket Launcher faced a stiff task when pulled up at *Cheltenham last week, and* may be feeling the effects of that effort. **Kilkilmartin** *showed his best form on fast* ground at Chepstow last time, and can hold off the *one-paced Grange Brake.*

***2.00:* Sylvia Beach** *appreciated* the step up in distance when beating Tareesh at *Hereford recently.* Shean Alainn would be a threat if brushing up his jumping.

Robert Wright

WARWICK

THUNDERER
2.15 Bella Parkes. 2.45 Ricky's Tornado. 3.15 Silky Siren. 3.45 *Eastern Memories.* 4.20 Camden's Ransom. 4.50 Harry's Coming. 5.20 Lyph.

GOING: FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.15 OLD MILVERTON MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-0: £3,377: 5f) (10 runners)
1 BEARALL R Hannon 8-11 R Perham 6
2 BELLA PARKES J Berry 8-11 T Quinn 4
3 CARLTON CROWN K Cunningham-Brown 8-11 J Lowe 10
4 FORMIDABLE LASS L Cottrell 8-11 N Carlisle 2
5 HI-RUBY W G M Turner 8-11 A Tucker (5) 5
6 LEESON STREET LADY B Palling 8-11 Paul Eddery 3
7 PARADISE NEWS G Bravery 8-11 N Day 7
8 ROSIE VALENTINE S Norton 8-11 O Pears (5) 9
9 TUTU SIXTYSIX R Boss 8-11 R Cochrane 1
10 WILKS DREAM W G M Turner 8-11 T Sprake 8
5-4 Bella Parkes, 7-2 Bearall, 6-1 Tutu Sixtysix, 8-1 Rosie Valentine, 10-1 Leeson Street Lady, 12-1 Wilks Dream, 14-1 Carlton Crown, 16-1 others.

2.45 TOTE/RACING POST TEN TO FOLLOW MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £3,318: 5f) (9)
1 -430 BLYTON STAR 29 K Burke 5-9-7 S Webster 5
2 30/ RICKY'S TORNADO 532 D Elsworth 4-9-7 J Williams 6
3 260- TRIOMING 183 A Jones 7-9-7 N Adams 1
4 0-04 CRACKER JACK 28 (B) T Fairhurst 3-8-8 G Baxter 3
5 00- LAID BACK BEN 136 B Palling 3-8-8 R Cochrane 9
6 323- THE FED 245 R Whitaker 3-8-8 A Culhane 8
7 58- WILL'S LEGACY 280 G Lewis 3-8-8 Paul Eddery 7
8 60- YUNUS EMRE 159 M Bell 3-8-8 J O'Dwyer (7) 2
9 000- BARASSIE 208 M McCormack 3-8-3 A Clark 4
9-4 The Fed, 3-1 Ricky's Tornado, 4-1 Cracker Jack, 5-1 Will's Legacy, 6-1 Yunus Emre, 10-1 Laid Back Ben, 12-1 Barassie, 14-1 others.

3.15 BINTON CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,243: 1m) (20)
1 1421 EASTLEIGH 35 (D,F,S) R Hollinshead 4-9-3 D Carson (7) 5
2 02- MADRAJ 37J R Hodges 5-9-3 T Sprake 6
3 60-3 ROCK THE BARNEY 9 P Burgoyne 4-8-13 T Quinn 3
4 00-5 WILD AND LOOSE 11 (D,G) D Elsworth 5-8-13 J Williams 2
5 000- ALLIMAC NOMIS 141J (D,F) I Campbell 4-8-11 G Mitchell (7) 9
6 20-3 MOST SURPRISING 26 (B,F) A Hambly 4-8-9 R Cochrane 14
7 000- SHALOU 141 (F) R Hodges 4-8-9 T G McLaughlin (7) 10
8 /451 STORM FREE 11 L Cottrell 7-8-9 N Carlisle 8
9 00- SEEMENOMORE 195 R Price 4-8-8 R Perham 17
10 3005 SAREEN EXPRESS 18J (D) Mrs J Dawe 5-8-7 G Bardwell 11
11 050/ YOUNG JAMES 485J R Baker 5-8-7 A Tucker (3) 19
12 -210 FARM STREET 28 (D,G,S) C Broad 6-8-5 B Russell (7) 20
13 00/5 MARSH WARBLER 38J R Frost 5-8-5 P McCabe (7) 12
14 10-6 SEASIDE MINSTREL 50 (C,D,F,G) R Manning 5-8-5 J Lowe 1
15 060- SUPER FLYER 299 P Hobbs 4-8-5 A McGlone 4
16 541- MEXICAN DANCER 141 (D,G) P Murphy 4-8-4 S Drowne (7) 7
17 0-12 SILKY SIREN 26 (B,D,BF) M Pipe 4-8-4 Paul Eddery 16
18 /13- COBBLERS HILL 217J (D,F) C Barwell 4-8-3 T Lang 18
19 ,040 PRECIOUS CAROLINE 19 P Cundell 5-8-2 J Penza 13
20 0-6 FATHOM FIVE 29 M Williams 4-8-0 N Adams 15
7-2 Silky Siren, 5-1 Eastleigh, 6-1 Farm Street, 8-1 Storm Free, Most Surprising, 10-1 Wild And Loose, Mexican Dancer, 12-1 Madraj, Cobblers Hill, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS
TRAINERS: R Johnson Houghton, 5 winners from 21 runners, 23.8%; P Chapple-Hyam, 6 from 26, 23.1%; J Gosden, 5 from 23, 21.7%; J Berry, 19 from 97, 19.6%; G Lewis, 9 from 46, 19.6%; G Harwood, 5 from 27, 18.5%.
JOCKEYS: W Carson, 25 winners from 98 rides 25.5%, R Cochrane, 10 from 48, 20.8%; Paul Eddery, 11 from 66, 16.7%; M Wigham, 4 from 30, 13.3%; B Raymond, 3 from 25, 12.0%; T Quinn, 10 from 85, 11.8%.

3.45 ROTHMANS ROYALS NORTH SOUTH CHALLENGE SERIES (Handicap: 3-Y-0: 1m) (12)
1 231- EASTERN MEMORIES 117 R Hannon 9-7 B Raymond 11
2 51-0 ESTHAL 49 (G) R Hodges 9-4 S Drowne (7) 10
3 310- RACING TELEGRAPH 162 (G) J Pearce 9-3 M Wigham 4
4 321- STRICTLY PERSONAL 101 (D) J Gosden 9-2 R Cochrane 1
5 2-61 HEART OF SPAIN 21 (D) P Makin 8-13 T Quinn 5
6 544- BAYDON BELLE 187 C Lewis 8-12 J Lowe 6
7 -525 WATERLORD 28 M Heaton-Ellis 8-12 D Wright (7) 9
8 55-6 SOMNIFERE 29 P Chapple-Hyam 8-11 Paul Eddery 12
9 223- MAJOR TRIUMPH 98 G Bravery 8-11 N Day 2
10 040- CREDIT SQUEEZE 184 (F) R Johnson Houghton 8-9 A Tucker (3) 3
11 520- OUR SHADEE 148 K Ivory 8-5 G Bardwell 7
12 0-23 SCORCHER 21 (B,BF) C Brittain 8-5 J Penza 8
4-1 Heart Of Spain, 9-2 Strictly Personal, 5-1 Eastern Memories, 6-1 Baydon Belle, 8-1 Somnifere, Scorcher, 10-1 Waterlord, Racing Telegraph, 12-1 others.

4.20 DUNSMORE HANDICAP
(£4,878: 1m 2f 169yd) (9)
1 100- KNOCK KNOCK 21J (CD,F,G) I Balding 8-10-0 R Cochrane 1
2 6/6- PULLY 231 (S) C Brittain 4-9-1 J Penza 5
3 000- NIGHT CLUBBING 30J (S) R Akehurst 4-8-13 T Quinn 7
4 1312 MULCIBER 21 (F) G Harwood 5-8-9 W Carson 9
5 0-31 CAMDEN'S RANSOM 11 (F) D Elsworth 6-8-9 J Williams 2
6 0-00 BASSIO 75 (F,G) C Allen 4-8-0 D Wright (7) 8
7 000- MYFONTAINE 175 (CD,F,G,S) K Ivory 6-7-13 G Bardwell 3
8 100- SMILING CHIEF 85J (G) R Hodges 5-7-11 T Sprake 6
9 000- MR ZIEGFELD 30J (B,G) R Baker 4-7-7 N Adams 4
9-4 Camden's Ransom, 5-2 Mulciber, 7-2 Knock Knock, 8-1 Night Clubbing, 10-1 Myfontaine, 12-1 Pully, 14-1 Smiling Chief, 16-1 others.

4.50 WELLESBOURNE HANDICAP
(£3,287: 6f) (19)
1 331- NOBLE POWER 133 (D,G) B Palling 4-10-0 R Cochrane 10
2 0-40 HARRY'S COMING 21 (C,D,F,G,S) R Hodges 9-9-12 S Drowne (7) 11
3 00-0 BEATLE SONG 12J (D,F,G) R Hodges 5-9-11 W Carson 6
4 006- MARTINOSKY 165 (D,F,G) G Bravery 7-9-9 N Day 8
5 000- LEIGH CROFTER 156 (B,G) P Murphy 4-9-7 J Williams 7
6 0640 RUSHANES 11 (C,D,S) T Casey 6-9-6 T Quinn 2
7 060/ SUPER DEB 37J (B,D,F,G) N Twiston-Davies 6-9-5 L Newton (5) 17
8 1040 LINCSTONE BOY 26 (D,F,S) K Burke 5-9-4 M Wood 12
9 500- SLIP-A-SNIP 221 (F,S) K Bridgwater 6-9-3 A Tucker (3) 18
10 003- MURPHY'S HOPE 141 M Heaton-Ellis 3-9-1 B Raymond 14
11 500- SPECTACLE JIM 291 R Curtis 4-8-13 G Bardwell 16
12 400- RED SOMBRERO 12J R Bastiman 4-8-13 J Lowe 4
13 324- TAKE IT IN CASH 121J R Dickin 4-8-11 Paul Eddery 1
14 4245 CHOICE LOT 22 (V,F) T Caldwell 5-9-7 N Kennedy (3) 13
15 3-11 SPENDER 11 (D) P Harris 4-8-6 N Adams 5
16 006- JOHN O'DREAMS 120 (C,S) Mrs J Dawe 8-8-6 T Sprake 19
17 -503 BRISAS 29 (B,D,F,G) T Fairhurst 6-8-5 G Baxter 9
18 000- CHEREN BOY 30J B Forsey 4-8-0 D Wright (7) 15
19 00-0 HITCHIN A RIDE 50 (G) M Muggeridge 6-7-11 J Comber 3
4-1 Spender, 6-1 Beatle Song, 8-1 Harry's Coming, Noble Power, 10-1 Murphy's Hope, Lincstone Boy, 12-1 Martinosky, Choice Lot, Rushanes, 14-1 others.

5.20 COVENTRY CUP (Handicap: 1m 6f 194yd) (15)
1 3/0- RAGAMUFFIN ROMEO 347 N Wright 4-9-10 Paul Eddery 8
2 056- HYMN BOOK 199J R Manning 4-9-7 J Lowe 11
3 331- EURIDICE 12J (S) W G M Turner 4-9-5 T Sprake 12
4 540- JUNE'S LEAR FAN 243 P Kelleway 4-8-10 G Bardwell 2
5 016- JANISKI 172 (V,F,G) Mrs B Waring 10-8-3 D Wright (7) 6
6 2316 LYPH 18J (BF) P Hedger 7-8-7 A Tucker (3) 10
7 215/ PHAROAH'S GUEST 7J (F) N Twiston-Davies 6-8-7 W Carson 5
8 2-10 ROMANIAN 22J R Akehurst 5-8-5 T Quinn 4
9 005- FERMAIN 25J A Barrow 4-8-5 N Adams 3
10 036- ANAR 172 (F) S Norton 4-8-4 N Kennedy (3) 13
11 206- PERFORATE 37J (B) R Baker 4-8-2 S Dawson 15
12 305- ANGELICA PARK 18J (F,G) J Wharton 7-8-0 J Penza 7
13 360- ELSA 180 P Murphy 4-7-13 A McGlone 1
14 65/ ROCKY ROMANCE 572 R Curtis 6-7-7 NON-RUNNER 9
15 000/ PINISI 3J J Wharton 8-7-7 N Carlisle 14
4-1 Romanian, 9-2 Lyph, 5-1 Euridice, 6-1 Pharoah's Guest, 7-1 Anar, 8-1 Angelica Park, 10-1 Janiski, Hymn Book, 12-1 June's Lear Fan, Elsa, 14-1 others.

Blinkered first time
DONCASTER: 3.40 Well Appointed. WARWICK: 3.15 Most Surprising. 3.45 Scorcher. 4.20 Mr Ziegfeld.

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER
1.55 Pollitts Pride. 2.25 Tronchetto. 2.55 Tresidder. 3.30 Over The Stream. 4.00 Decent Man. 4.30 Tapatch.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM PATCHES)

1.55 PROVIDENT MUTUAL NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,562: 3m 3f 110yd) (9 runners)
1 6000 STAN CARTER 44 C Smith 5-11-9 M Ranger
2 PPP4 SWEETING 21 J White 6-11-9 A Jones
3 /0P5 BRIGG MELODY 14 J Thorpe 12-11-4 Mr K Green
4 U3P5 CASA BELLA 15 B Richmond 6-11-4 D Byrne
5 0/ DYNAVON 1064 T Carr 7-11-4 B Storey
6 0000 MISS WAG 14 W Young 6-11-4 A Merrigan
7 PPP- POLLITTS PRIDE 308 G Moore 7-11-4 A Orkney
8 0050 ESCADARO 23 (V) Mrs V Ward 4-11-0 D Meredith (3)
9 0 VALSEUR 38 L Lungo 4-11-0 F Perratt (7)
2-1 Valseur, 5-2 Escadaro, 7-2 Pollitts Pride, 6-1 Casa Bella, 8-1 Sweeting, 16-1 others.

2.25 BRADLEY HALL CHARTERED SURVEYORS MAIDEN HURDLE (£1,786: 2m 5f 110yd) (13)
1 -4FU ANTHONY BELL 108 T Carr 7-11-7 B Storey
2 0060 CAREFREE TIMES 38 J Norton 6-11-7 W Fry (7)
3 DOUGAL'S BIRTHDAY G Coatsworth 7-11-7 A Merrigan
4 F30/ EXECUTIVE JET 1643 J Birkett 11-11-7 A Jones
5 2-P5 HUNMANBY GAP 21 P Beaumont 6-11-7 C Hawkins
6 0032 LA FONTAINBLEAU 10 D Brown 5-11-7 Mr A Robson
7 4004 SUPER COIN 17 D McCain 5-11-7 Mr D McCain Jr (5)
8 PPP6 TRENTSIDE VALOUR 40 (V) C Smith 8-11-7 M Ranger
9 -000 BETTY ELSTON 28 J Thorpe 5-11-2 Annette Billany (7)
10 040 GLENSTAL PRIORY 17 F Gibson 6-11-2 T Reed
11 0000 OCEAN ROSE 18 Mrs B Butterworth 6-11-2 James Jones (3)
12 54 TRONCHETTO 22 J J O'Neill 4-11-0 M Dwyer
13 0556 SEA PET 42 J Blundell 4-10-9 D Barry (7)
3-1 Tronchetto, 4-1 La Fontainbleau, 6-1 Super Coin, 7-1 Sea Pet, 8-1 Hunmanby Gap, 10-1 Anthony Bell, 16-1 Ocean Rose, 25-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS
TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 52 winners from 185 runners, 28.1%; M H Easterby, 25 from 97, 25.8%; J J O'Neill, 10 from 50, 20.0%; L Lungo, 3 from 16, 18.8%; G Moore, 27 from 149, 18.1%; R Earnshaw, 3 from 19, 15.8%.
JOCKEYS: D Ryan, 4 winners from 15 rides, 26.7%; M Dwyer, 34 from 141, 24.1%; R Hodge, 11 from 50, 22.0%; C Grant, 47 from 220, 21.4%; D Byrne, 13 from 63, 20.6%; R Garritty, 14 from 95, 14.7%.

2.55 COUNTY DURHAM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,950: 2m 1f) (7)
1 P/05 NOHALMDUN 21 (D,F,G,S) M H Easterby 12-11-10 R Garritty
2 4233 JUST FRANKIE 15 (D,BF,G) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-12 T Reed
3 3651 TRESIDDER 15 (C,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 11-10-5 M Dwyer
4 U13U FROZEN MINSTREL 28 (D,F,S) J Johnson 9-10-3 G Upton
5 -53F RED COLUMBIA 35 (G,S) F Coton 12-10-0 Mrs G Adkin
6 6633 SILVER HAZE 11 (D,F,G) J Wade 9-10-0 D Bentley (5)
7 P1P2 OUR SURVIVOR 7 (F) J Parkes 9-10-0 N Smith
3-1 Frozen Minstrel, 3-1 Just Frankie, 7-2 Tresidder, 6-1 Silver Haze, 8-1 others.

3.30 CALLERS PEGASUS NOVICES CHASE
(£1,827: 3m 3f) (8)
1 433P NEWS REVIEW 7 (S) O Williams 10-11-9 R Beggan
2 5P21 OVER THE STREAM 19 (F) M Hammond 7-11-9 C Grant
3 -002 BUCK OWENS 18 (F) J Johnson 8-11-2 A Orkney
4 UPP- CEVA PARK 341 R Earnshaw 8-11-2 R Hodge
5 P042 GUTE NACHT 15 S Campion 10-11-2 P Midgley (5)
6 POLITICAL KING J Charlton 9-11-2 B Storey
7 05P4 UPWELL 11 (C,F) R Johnson 9-11-2 K Johnson
8 3PP2 DISTANT CHERRY 28 (V) D Lee 8-10-11 T Reed
7-4 Buck Owens, 9-4 Over The Stream, 5-1 News Review, 6-1 Gute Nacht, 6-1 Distant Cherry, 20-1 others.

4.00 DARLINGTON BUILDING SOCIETY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,259: 3m 3f) (5)
1 1FP0 BOREEN OWEN 46 (CD,G,S) J J O'Neill 9-12-0 James Jones (3)
2 1121 DECENT MAN 12 (CD,F,G,S) P Beaumont 10-11-7 C Hawkins
3 2P-6 FIESTA DANCE 21 (F) G Fleming 10-10-10 M Robinson (7)
4 2344 MISTER MOODY 18 (S) J Johnson 8-10-7 A Orkney
5 00P2 MAJIC RAIN 9 (G) G Coatsworth 8-10-2 A Merrigan
13-8 Decent Man, 5-2 Mister Moody, 3-1 Majic Rain, 6-1 Boreen Owen, 16-1 Fiesta Dance.

4.30 GORDON BROWN SOLICITORS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,865: 2m 1f 110yd) (6)
1 6226 STAY AWAKE 169 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-12-0 R Hodge
2 1521 TAPATCH 10 (C,F,G) G Moore 5-12-0 M Dwyer
3 0153 FIERY SUN 7 (D,F) R Barr 8-12-0 D J Moffatt (5)
4 1323 COOL DUDE 22 (S) J Johnson 7-11-3 G Upton
5 1430 MR REINER 64 (CD,F,G,S) J Wade 5-11-1 D Ryan (7)
6 1656 JASMIN PATH 10 (B,D,F,G,S) S Gollings 8-10-0 A Dobbin (3)
2-1 Cool Dude, 5-2 Tapatch, 3-1 Fiery Sun, 11-2 Stay Awake, 10-1 others.

□ Derek Byrne, suspended for reckless riding at Newcastle last Saturday, had his suspension reduced from ten to seven days on appeal to the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee yesterday, but will still miss the Grand National meeting at Aintree next week.

BANGOR

THUNDERER
2.05 Salman. 2.35 The Hidden City. 3.05 Wigtown Bay. 3.35 Le Bucheron. 4.05 Sand King. 4.35 The *Slater.* 5.05 Rustic Bridge.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (WATERED) SIS

2.05 PENLEY NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,323: 2m 1f) (14)
1 4121 PHARLY STORY 7 (B,F) M Pipe 5-12-4 P Scudamore
2 1P45 HIGHLAND POACHER 29 (S) D McCain 6-11-12 S J O'Neill
3 DUSKOMI G Ham 7-11-6 S Mackey
4 PPPP JON'S CHOICE 23 B Preece 5-11-6 N Juckes (7)
5 00-0 ODYSSEUS 52 R Waley-Cohen 7-11-6 H Davies
6 -650 OWLANDISH 80 D McCain 5-11-6 D Walsh (5)
7 0 PERSIAN WOLF 59 O O'Neill 5-11-6 V Slattery (5)
8 -001 SALMAN 8 (G) Mrs V Ward 7-11-6 R Davis (5)
9 0-P SPIN THE COIN 23 B Preece 7-11-6 T Wall
10 054P CELTIC WIND 101 T Morton 6-11-1 W McFarland
11 06 BENTLEY MANOR 43 J Upson 4-10-12 R Supple
12 5 CASHTAL RUNNER 17 E Owen 4-10-12 R Bellamy
13 4502 THE TITAN GHOST 14 S Coathup 4-10-12 R Greene (3)
14 0 SHAKINSKI 10 M Ryan 4-10-7 J Ryan
7-4 Pharly Story, 9-4 Salman, 5-1 The Titan Ghost, 6-1 Highland Poacher, 16-1 Cashtal Runner, 20-1 Bentley Manor, 25-1 Celtic Wind, 33-1 others.

2.35 CROSS LANES CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,829: 2m 1f) (13)
1 3005 EARLY BREEZE 52 (F) M McCourt 7-11-10 J Ryan
2 -044 SAYMORE 23 (G) R Hollinshead 7-11-10 S Wynne
3 6120 JAMESTOWN BOY 23 (B,CD,F,G,S) B Preece 5-11-9 N Juckes (7)
4 6005 THE HIDDEN CITY 14 (G) C Tinkler 7-11-9 T Eley (3)
5 4223 PASSO ALL'ERTA 25 (S) D Deacon 10-11-7 R Massey (7)
6 F553 SUM MEDE 16 (B) B Rothwell 6-11-5 G Cahill (7)
7 4561 POLDER 30 (F,G) D Williams 7-11-1 R Davis
8 0604 PANATHINAIKOS 15 (G) G Ham 6-11-0 D Hobbs (7)
9 42-5 SIBERIAN BREEZE 14 (F) J Glover 5-11-0 S D Williams
10 P002 IN COUNCIL 10 D Carey 6-10-13 A Flannigan (5)
11 -P62 HELLO SAM 14 (C,F) J Bennett 10-10-5 R Greene
12 000 MONTAGNE 14 S Coathup 4-10-0 P Williams (3)
13 P-P0 FREDDY OWEN 9 (B) L Codd 7-10-0 D Fortt (5)
5-2 Early Breeze, 5-1 Siberian Breeze, 6-1 Sum Mede, 7-1 Panathinaikos, Polder, 8-1 Jamestown Boy, 10-1 The Hidden City, 12-1 In Council, 14-1 others.

3.05 ALTHREY WOODHOUSE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,114: 2m 4f 110yd) (3)
1 31F3 ICARUS 43 (D,F,G) M H Easterby 7-11-10 L Wyer
2 4202 WIGTOWN BAY 21 (D,F,G) J Mackie 10-10-0 N Williamson
3 /P06 DAVY'S WEIR 7 (D,F,G) B Thornley 13-10-0 R Davis (5)
4-6 Icarus, 5-4 Wigtown Bay, 10-1 Davy's Weir.

3.35 MILES MACADAM NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,761: 3m 110yd) (4)
1 41F3 CLARES HORSE 164 (G) J Upson 6-11-10 R Supple
2 /U33 SANDYBRAES 29 (G) D Nicholson 8-11-6 R Bellamy
3 23PU LE BUCHERON 8 (F,G) M Ryan 7-11-6 J Ryan
4 00P6 GEN-TECH 23 (B) A James 6-11-1 M Jones
Evens Clares Horse, 7-4 Sandybraes, 9-2 Le Bucheron, 10-1 Gen-Tech.

4.05 LIGHTWOOD GREEN NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,333: 2m 7f 110yd) (7)
1 -0P8 SCRIVEN BOY 23 J Edwards 6-11-10 N Williamson
2 6F4U MISS SHAW 10 E Owen 7-11-9 R Bellamy
3 3062 SAND KING 22 (B) J White 7-11-8 M Brennan
4 0622 OK RECORDS 15 (BF) O O'Neill 6-11-5 V Slattery (5)
5 U212 TOUCH 'N' PASS 18 (F) R O'Leary 5-11-2 P Harley
6 3580 THANKSFORTHEOFFER 7 D Wintle 5-10-0 P McDermott
7 565P SERGEANT SILVER 29 (B) R Eckley 8-10-0 I Lawrence
2-1 Sand King, 9-4 Ok Records, 4-1 Touch 'N' Pass, 6-1 Miss Shaw, 12-1 Thanksfortheoffer, 14-1 Scriven Boy, 20-1 Sergeant Silver.

4.35 MAELOR NOVICES CHASE
(£2,840: 2m 1f 110yd) (7)
1 422F THE SLATER 11 (F,G,S) W G M Turner 8-11-9 M Pitman
2 P238 BILLION MELODY 23 (F,G) C Cowley 11-11-4 Gary Lyons
3 04F3 CRAFTY CHAPLAIN 14 P Bevan 7-11-4 T Wall
4 P-53 OVER THE STYX 9 G Richards 8-11-4 N Doughty
5 0632 PROCTORS ROW 14 D McCain 6-11-4 D Walsh (5)
6 P4P5 SOUTHEND UNITED 54 J Upson 7-11-4 R Supple
7 F-2U UNCLE MOBY 21 (F) D Nicholson 7-11-4 R Bellamy
Evens The Slater, 7-2 Over The Styx, 5-1 Proctors Row, 8-1 Crafty Chaplain, Uncle Moby, 20-1 Southend United, 25-1 Billion Melody

5.05 GRUNWICK STAKES NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,794: 2m 1f) (18)
1 0 ACHIEVED AMBITION 28 J Edwards 5-11-10 R Davis (5)
2 0 MASTER SACHA 53 D McCain 5-11-10 D Walsh (5)
3 0 MISTI MAC 45 B O'Leary 5-11-10 K Davies (7)
4 1 CAPENWRAY 9 (G) R Fisher 4-11-9 A Larnach (3)
5 0 EMRAL MISS 9 G Richards 5-11-5 B Harding (7)
6 0 KABELIA 14 S Coathup 5-11-5 P Williams (7)
7 BALHERNOCH M H Easterby 4-11-2 Mr S Swiers
8 5 BELL STAFFBOY 53 C Broad 4-11-2 A Flannigan (7)
9 BROAD HEART J Smith 4-11-2 R Greene (3)
10 CAPICHE J Etherington 4-11-2 G Tormey (7)
11 GREY ANCONA C Tinkler 4-11-2 W Dwan (5)
12 0 GREY SEASON 15 T Donnelly 4-11-2 T Eley (3)
13 NODFORMS INFERNO D Eddy 4-11-2 S Lyons (5)
14 POCKET WATCH D Esden 4-11-2 V Slattery (5)
15 RUSTIC BRIDGE P Calver 4-11-2 S Wynne (3)
16 GRAY ROSETTE E Owen 4-10-11 Mr M Walding
17 MY PREROGATIVE D Deacon 4-10-11 D Fortt (7)
18 WELSH LUSTRE D Nicholson 4-10-11 R Massey (7)
9-4 Capenwray, 9-2 Welsh Lustre, 6-1 Balhernoch, 8-1 Emral Miss, 10-1 Achieved Ambition, 12-1 Bell Staffboy, 14-1 Capiche, Grey Rosette, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS
TRAINERS: M Pipe, 25 winners from 74 runners, 33.8%; J White, 7 from 24, 29.2%; R Fisher, 4 from 14, 28.6%, G Richards, 31 from 112, 27.7%, G Ham, 9 from 37, 24.3%; J Upson, 4 from 20, 20.0%.
JOCKEYS: P Scudamore, 20 winners from 48 rides, 41.7%, N Doughty, 19 from 60, 31.7%, I Lawrence, 4 from 19, 21.1%; H Davies, 5 from 33, 15.2%; R Supple, 4 from 32, 12.5% Only qualifiers

Racing next week
MONDAY: Folkestone, Hamilton, Hexham.
TUESDAY: Leicester, Newcastle, Sandown.
WEDNESDAY: Ascot, Catterick, Worcester.
THURSDAY: Aintree, Brighton, Southwell, Taunton.
FRIDAY: Aintree, Beverley, Kempton.
SATURDAY: Aintree, Beverley, Lingfield (all-weather), Hereford.
(Flat meetings in bold)

[RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S FOUR MEETINGS]

oncaster
ing: good to firm
.0 (5f) 1, BEST KEPT SECRET (J Carroll,), 2, Rieldie Things (B Rouse, 7-1); 3, tle Rock (K Darley, 8-4 fav). ALSO RAN: Saddam The Log (4th), 9 Double-D, 12 ckabye Baileys (5th). 14 Lying Eyes (6th), chess Daisy, 16 General Fairfax, Kaleu, Lady Swift, 25 Rustus, Young Medic. ran. 2½l, 2½l, nk, 1½l, 1½l. J Berry at ckerham. Tote: £4.40; £1.90, £2.20, 40 DF £16.00. CSF: £50.96.

2.10 (7f) 1, THUNDER RIVER (T Quinn, 10-1); 2, Secret Aly (B Doyle, 8-1); 3, Complete Madness (M Hills, 13-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 L'Aigle D'Or, 9 Hostile Witness (4th), Imperial Tokay (5th), 25 Salvatore Giuliano (6th), Rich Asset, Dickins, Smith N'Allan, 50 Rosie O'Reilly. 11 ran. Nk, 10l, 2½l, 2½l, 7l. M Heaton-Ellis at Wroughton. Tote: £12.20; £2.20, £2.70, £1.40. DF: £53.20. CSF: £80.73. 1min 28.12sec.

2.40 (6f) 1, GORINSKY (J Carroll, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Miss Demeanours Girl (B Doyle, 14-1); 3, Assignment (R Cochrane, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 jt-fav Love Legend (5th), 5 Adwick Park (4th), 8 Castlerea Lad, 10 Densben, 12 Sea Devil (6th), Halbert, 20 Sense Of Priority, Nutty Brown. 11 ran. 1l, 1½l, hd, nk, ¾l. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £5.60; £2.20, £2.80, £2.20. DF: £32.80. Trio: £98.00. CSF: £59.60. Tricast: £342.49. 1min 12.72sec.

3.10 (1m) 1, CEE-JAY-AY (J Carroll, 25-1); 2, Heniu (T Quinn, 6-1 fav); 3, Kissavos (F Norton, 25-1); 4, Indian Slave (D Harrison, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Tahitian, 10 Allinson's Mate (6th), Chatham Island, 11 Roseate Lodge, 14 Coltrane, Domicksky, Habeta, Kilty, 16 Saltyng (5th), Leap In The Dark, 20 Mentalasanythin, Red Kite, 25 Falcons Dawn, Lockingforarainbow, 33 Let The Lucky, Gant Bleu, Spanish Verdict, Madagans Grey, 50 Affidare. 23 ran. NR: Veloce. 2½l, sh hd, hd, nk, hd. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £29.30; £5.00, £2.20, £8.00, £3.30. DF: £103.00. Trio: £946.00. CSF: £161.20. Tricast: £3,501.10. 1min 38.11sec.

3.40 (2m 2f) 1, SNOW BOARD (W Carson, 7-4 fav); 2, Taroudant (K Darley, 12-1); 3, Jack Button (N Day, 9-1); 4, Avro Anson (N Connorton, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Sillars Stalker (6th), 12 Farsi, 14 Postage Stamp, 16 Aude La Belle, Green Lane, 20 Creeager, 33 Bedouin Prince, 50 French Ivy, Lafkadio, Administer (5th), 66 Charlie Dickins, 100 Cardea Castle. 16 ran. 1½l, hd, 1½l, hd, 1½l. B Hills at Lambourn. Tote: £2.80; £1.10, £2.60, £2.40, £1.70. DF: £17.90. Trio: £74.10. CSF: £24.81. Tricast: £141.56. 3min 58.00sec.

4.10 (1m) 1, MARASTANI (J Reid, 5-2 fav); 2, Kinema Red (Pat Eddery, 9-2); 3, Bitter's End (W R Swinburn, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 4 White Creek, 11-2 Erilon (4th), 11 Civil Law (5th), Chief's Song, 14 Abjar (6th), 16 Collier Bay, 20 Peacefull Reply, 25 Stylish Rose, Mr Luciano, 33 Honey Guide, Grenoble, Bold Line. 15 ran. Hd, nk, 3½l, 6l, 1½l. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote: £3.30; £1.50, £2.00, £2.80. DF: £4.80. CSF: £16.13. 1min 37.92sec.
Placepot: £58.50.

Newbury
Going: firm (chase course); good to firm (hurdles)
2.00 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Sorbiere (J Osborne, 8-4 fav); 2, Mosstroso (9-2); 3, Givettago (4-1). 10 ran. NR: Knightsbridge Bc. 1l, 2l. N Henderson. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £1.30, £1.90. DF: £4.00. CSF: £8.16.
2.30 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Fierce (S D Williams, 4-1); 2, The Blue Boy (3-1); 3, Merandi Special (50-1). Miami Splash 4-5 fav. 5 ran. 20l, 2l. J Jenkins. Tote: £4.90, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £8.20. CSF: £15.16.
3.00 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Topsham Bay (J Frost, 5-6 fav); 2, Royle Speedmaster (Evens). 2 ran. 7l. D Barons. Tote: £1.60.
3.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, Smartie Express (W Irvine, 4-7 fav); 2, Blustery Fellow (13-8); 3, Height Of Fun (14-1). 3 ran. NR: Carbisdale. 7l, dist. R Hodges. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.30. CSF: £1.77.
4.00 (2m 4f ch) 1, Copper Mine (J Osborne, 9-4); 2, Ambrose (11-4). Casting Time Evens fav. 3 ran. Only two finished. 3½l. D Sherwood. Tote: £2.00. DF: £2.00. CSF: £8.72.
4.30 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Shahdjat (S McNeill, 15-8); 2, Drumcevo (8-1); 3, Yorkshire Gale (11-8 fav). 6 ran. 8l, 20l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.70, £1.40, £2.10. DF: £5.00. CSF: £14.71.
Jackpot: £432.80.
Placepot: £56.70.

Carlisle
Going: good (good to firm in places)
1.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Kirstenbosch (F Perratt, 6-4 fav); 2, Casual Pass (20-1); 3, Highly Decorated (8-1). 13 ran. NR: Master Of The Rock. 2l, 4l. L Lungo. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £6.20, £3.40. DF: £264.80. CSF: £34.08.
2.15 (3m ch) 1, Charming Gale (P Williams, 7-1); 2, Pink Gin (100-30); 3, Truely Royal (13-8 fav). 8 ran. 8l, 1¼l. Mrs S Bradburne. Tote: £14.70; £2.10, £1.10, £1.10. DF: £8.60. CSF: £27.69. Tricast: £48.48.
2.45 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Tartan Tradewinds (M Moloney, 11-2); 2, Master Sandy (20-1); 3, Aurora Lad (7-2). Veleda II 2-1 fav. 11 ran. NR: Linkside, Tobin Bronze. 8l, 2½l. G Richards. Tote: £4.50; £1.50, £2.30, £1.40. DF: £99.60. CSF: £83.55. After a stewards' enquiry, the result stood.
3.15 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, On The Hooch (P Williams, 4-1); 2, Tres Amigos (5-2 fav); 3, Sword Beach (6-1). 8 ran. ¾l, 8l. Mrs S Bradburne. Tote: £5.20; £1.40, £1.50, £1.80. DF: £6.10. CSF: £13.57. Tricast: £52.07.
3.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Chill Wind (R Garritty, 4-1); 2, Marked Card (14-1); 3, Bee Dee Boy (7-1). Northern Squire 7-2 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, 3½l. N Bycroft. Tote: £4.70; £2.60, £2.20, £1.40. DF: £95.30. CSF: £52.81. Tricast: £349.27.
4.15 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Renagown (Mr S Brisby, 6-4 fav); 2, Wheelies Newmember (7-4); 3, Music Be Magic (9-2). 8 ran. 15l, nk. S Chadwick. Tote: £2.30; £1.20, £1.10, £1.20. DF: £2.80. CSF: £4.38.
4.45 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Preobrajensky (N Doughty, 9-4 fav); 2, Ballyford (8-1); 3, The Green Fool (8-1). 12 ran. 8l, 2½l. G Richards. Tote: £3.90; £2.10, £2.30, £2.90. DF: £14.70. CSF: £21.98. Tricast: £137.53.
Placepot: £36.60.

Ludlow
Going: firm
1.50 (2m hdle) 1, Spinning Steel (J Railton, 13-8); 2, The Holy Golfer (5-4 fav); 3, Them Times (13-2). 6 ran. NR: Taurian Princess, Lucy Belle. ¾l, 15l. M Meade. Tote: £2.10; £1.30, £1.50. DF: £1.80. CSF: £4.00.
2.20 (2m ch) 1, Times Lad (N Williamson, 11-8 fav); 2, Ronocco (25-1); 3, Came Down (85-40). 4 ran. 10l, 3l. J Edwards. Tote: £2.20. DF: £7.60. CSF: £15.58.
2.50 (2m 4f ch) 1, Aldington Bell (D Bridgwater, 15-8); 2, Counterbid (13-8 fav). Only two finished. 4 ran. Dist. C Trietline. Tote: £2.10. DF: £2.00. CSF: £5.05.
3.20 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Nomax Lad (J Railton, 7-2); 2, Cheerful Times (4-1); 3, Alreef (11-4). Snowy Lane 2-1 fav. 5 ran. 1l, 15l. M Meade. Tote: £5.50; £2.10, £2.30. DF: £17.90. CSF: £15.94.
3.50 (3m ch) 1, Master Eryl (Mr M Sheppard, 8-1); 2, My Mellow Man (4-1); 3, Brazen Gold (33-1). Knockumshin 4-6 fav. 7 ran. 1½l, 2½l. Mrs R Gulding. Tote: £12.00; £3.30, £1.80. DF: £22.40. CSF: £36.17.
4.20 (2m hdle) 1, Nocatchim (G Upton, 2-6 fav); 2, Briggs Lad (7-2); 3, Waaza (11-2). 5 ran. 1½l, 25l. S Sherwood. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £1.10. DF: £1.80. CSF: £2.26.
Placepot: £191.50.

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Saturday portrait: Matthew Pinsent, by Andrew Longmore

Oxford president offers Olympian view of Boat Race

ILLUSTRATION: STEVE MARTIN



Whether Oxford win, lose or draw the 139th University Boat Race today, the quaint ritual will mark another milestone in the spectacular career of the day's most famous participant. The Oxford presidency of Matthew Pinsent MBE, Barcelona gold medal-winner, ends this evening and, after a night of what most predict will be hearty celebration of a dark blue victory, the Old Etonian will move on to his next tasks: wrestling with his final exams in geography this summer and renewing his gold-medal partnership with Steve Redgrave in preparation for the world championships in September.

After that, it will be on to Atlanta in 1996 and his defence of the Olympic title. For Pinsent, at the age of 22, the landmarks of life are slipping by as swiftly and effortlessly as Barnes Bridge and Chiswick Steps will this afternoon.

However shocking it may seem to those for whom the Boat Race represents the ultimate sporting challenge, Pinsent regards it in the same detached way as a professional footballer views a league match.

A big deal for 90 minutes, but just another statistic thereafter. "It's an important part of my university career," he explained with the measured perspective of a man contemplating a day return to fame when he already has a season ticket in his pocket.

Not that Pinsent has any intention of being the first losing Oxford president in seven years and only the second in the last 18. His pride and his pin-sharp instinct for competition would not accommodate such effrontery nor tolerate the baiting from Redgrave which would follow an Oxford defeat and a Pinsent failure.

It was bad enough that Redgrave's Leander eight beat Oxford during trials earlier in the year. "I couldn't look at him during the race," Pinsent said. "I knew I would laugh or make a V-sign at him. That's how we are together. We are well practised at rubbing each other up the wrong way."

Many of the lessons Pinsent has learnt from Redgrave have been passed on to an Oxford eight which, on paper at least, is one of the most powerful in the history of the race. Unglamorous things like mental preparation, diet and systems of training, the hidden regime, have dominated the lives of both crews over the past six months of unremitting toil.

But Pinsent has avoided thinking too consciously about that moment in high summer when the self-confessed pair of the "has-been and the never-will-be" made competition irrelevant with the utter certainty of their victory in the coxless pairs. "I have tried to put Barcelona behind me," Pinsent said. "I am certainly as fit as I was before the Olympics and I feel I am getting stronger all the time, but I have to concentrate on what is in front of me. Just because I have a gold medal in my wardrobe doesn't mean that I will win the Boat Race."

> I hope I'm not besotted by winning the gold and having an MBE. I don't reflect on what I've done. I enjoy rowing"

As president of Oxford, Pinsent has full control of every aspect of preparation, from choosing the eight to switching coxes at the eleventh hour and deciding which type of blade to use on the day.

He has had to be sensitive to the needs of the whole crew, which has made the challenge very different from that of the Olympics. "I have to make them feel comfortable so they can row their best. Some you can leave alone, others need more sympathy and the extra responsibility does impinge on my own rowing, but, hopefully, not too badly. I think I have developed enough consistency to cope," he said.

Wisely, Pinsent has resisted the temptation to exert his full authority over a highly experienced crew and there will be no death-or-glory speech before this Oxford eight takes to the Tideway for the last time today. Pinsent leads by example rather than word, though what he does say emerges from deep within his 6ft 5in, 15st 3lb frame and has just the authoritative, resonant edge you might expect from the son of a Church of England vicar.

"By the time the race comes, nothing more needs to be said, we've been thinking about it so much. If the fire's not there, it's too late anyway. But the fire will be there." Or else, the tone implies.

It is all a far cry from the early days when a tall but ungainly rugby player rejected the playing fields of Eton and first took to the water — or became "a wet bob", to use the school lingo — as one of the under-15 B crew. Not until his last 18 months at school did signs of real promise emerge.

"He did some tests on a rowing machine and broke every record. Only then did we realise we had a considerable force on our hands," Paul Wright, coach to the first eight and a housemaster at Eton, recalled. "It wasn't just that it was out and out power. He could sustain his power for a lot longer than the others."

Wright has followed Pinsent's career from Eton and coached him to gold in the coxless pairs at the world junior championships in 1988. That same year, Pinsent met Redgrave for the first time during training, though neither understood the significance of the occasion until they came together more permanently, almost by chance, in 1990.

It took almost a year for the unlikely combination of intense, highly experienced professional and ruddy-cheeked, privileged public-school boy, nine years the junior, to find a working relationship on and off the water. But when they did, the rest of the world were relegated to the back row.

"Matthew is quick-witted, well spoken, full of fun and he provided a tremendous foil for Redgrave who is a very, very serious sportsman," Wright said. "With due respect to his previous partners, I don't think any of them gave Steve the same enjoyment off the water. Matthew gives as good as he gets and the pair spark off each other and they compete at everything."

Together, they beat the rest of the world so emphatically that their victory was almost taken for granted. Overnight, though, Pinsent found fame and it to his eternal credit that the discovery did not promote airs and graces any more than his exclusive education has provoked snobbery. When not strapped to the inside of a rowing boat, Pinsent's huge feet are planted firmly on the ground.

"I hope I'm not besotted by winning the gold and having an MBE. I don't reflect on what I've done. I enjoy rowing and I enjoy the success it has brought me, but I just concentrate on what I do best. At the moment, that's rowing." By the end of the afternoon, Cambridge should understand exactly what that means.

Cambridge chase early lead to test dark blues' strength

Mike Rosewell assesses the merits of the Oxford and Cambridge university crews that compete in the 139th Boat Race today

THE best Cambridge crew for many years takes on an exceptional Oxford eight in the 139th Boat Race today and offers the prospect of a classic rowing encounter. Oxford, the favourites, may have enjoyed a marvellous run of success, with victory in 16 of the last 17 races, but they have a healthy respect for their rivals this year.

In a race as well matched as this, an early lead, particularly for Cambridge, might be decisive. Patrick Sweeney, the Oxford head coach, said yesterday: "If they get away, they will be hard to beat. If they don't, they are dead meat."

Form suggests that the crews are well matched off the start, which will make the decision over the choice of stations, after the presidents have called the toss of the sovereign, a vital last contribution from the coaches.

The crews will also be preparing for the umpire, Mark Evans, to say "go" after a brief rather than lengthy pause after the "set" command. He declined to change his controversial start ruling yesterday.

With the forecast set fair, Oxford may favour the big blade oars they last used on Wednesday instead of the conventional macon oars for the 4¼-mile race. This would increase their speed off the start.

Cambridge, who last won in 1986, use the larger cleaver blades and their realistic challenge this year is underlined by their build-up with a settled crew and impressive pre-race wins over Molesey and Nottingham County.

Oxford have made three late changes, have been beaten by Leander and narrowly beat London University. Both those crews lost to Molesey a week ago.

Rhythm and stroking apart, the Boat Race this year will be decided by the engine rooms, the powerful men in the middle of the boats, regardless of minor discrepancies in technique in periphery bow-side positions in both crews.

For Oxford, Matthew Pinsent is massively strong at No. 6 and Bruce Robertson, at No. 5, has a formidable length of stroke. The two Olympic champions form a dynamic force with another international, Richard Manners, at No. 4.

Cambridge's line-up includes three world-class performers in the middle positions in Richard Phelps, Jon Bernstein, and Malcolm Baker. In the bows, Dirk Bangert, David Gillard and James Behrens are all past blues, as are the Oxford trio, Kingsley Poole, Jo Michels and Boris Mavra. The latter exhibits strength rather than technique, much the same as his No. 3 counterpart, Behrens.

Cambridge have placed their least experienced performers, Sinclair Gore and Will Mason, in the vital stern seats at No. 7 and stroke. According to Harry Mahon, their New Zealand coach: "This is the way it fits best for the crew."

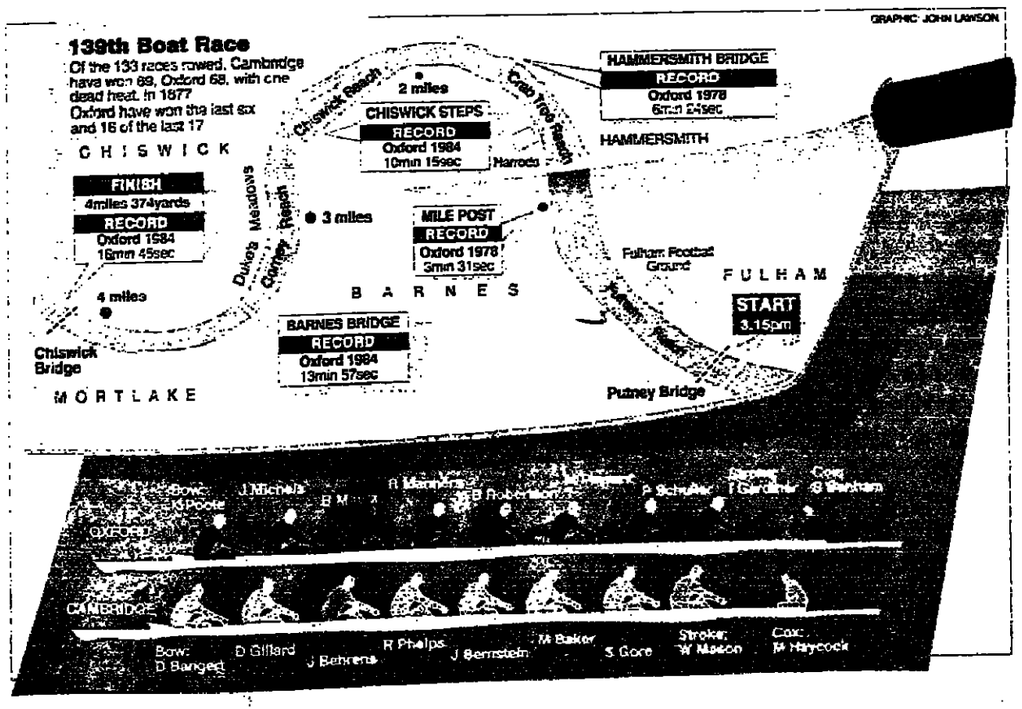
Oxford put an inexperienced Scot, Ian Gardiner, at stroke in 1992 with some success and he is still there, supported by Philipp Schuller, the German oarsman who has perhaps had less racing in the past year than anyone in either crew.

The crews looked sharp yesterday morning. There was almost a straining at the leash, which caused both coaches to cancel their scheduled second outings.

Mahon is eager for his first Boat Race to start but it seems likely that he will be watching at 3.50pm when Pinsent, the Oxford president, receives the Beefeater Trophy to put in a cabinet with his Olympic gold medal. It would leave the series level for the first time since 1929 — 69 wins each, with one dead heat.

The curtain-raiser between the reserve crews, Isis and Goldie, should see a Cambridge win. In spite of the appearance of the South African Olympic rower, Andrew Gordon-Brown, in the Isis crew, Christopher Elmitt and Nicholas Clarry, a blue last year, should tilt the balance Goldie's way.

BETTING: 1-4: Oxford 5-2: Cambridge. 100-1: dead heat
WEATHER: Dry and sunny with a light, southerly wind
TELEVISION: BBC1: 1.10pm: Preview 2.10: Toss for station 2.45: Live coverage
RADIO: Radio 5: Coverage from 1.30pm





Phelps: experienced — Benfield: Oxford cox — Baker: golden arm

Who faces who in the University Boat Race

OXFORD

Bow. Kingsley Poole
Magdalen College School and St John's
Age 23. 6ft 3in. 12st 13½lb.
Australian. Reading medicine (postgraduate) Isis 1990, blue 1992.

2. Joseph Michels
St John's College HS, La Salle University, US, and Pembroke
Age 28. 6ft 3in. 12st 8½lb.
American. Reading physics (postgraduate). Blue 1991, 1992 (president)

3. Boris Mavra
Matematicka Gimnazija, Belgrade, Imperial College and Jesus
Age 23. 6ft 5in. 14st 1½lb.
Yugoslavian. Reading mathematics (postgraduate). Blue 1992. Henley winner 1990, British national champion 1991

4. Richard Manners
Winchester and Brasenose
Age 20. 6ft 3½in. 14st 13lb.
British. Reading physics. Junior world championships silver medal 1990. Olympic reserve 1992.

5. Bruce Robertson
St Francis HS, University of Victoria, Canada, and Keble
Age 30. 6ft 6in. 14st 12lb.
Canadian. Reading social studies (postgraduate). World championships silver medal 1990 and 1991. Olympic gold medal 1992.

6. Matthew Pinsent (president)
Eton and St Catherine's
Age 22. 6ft 5in. 15st 2½lb.
British. Reading geography. Blue 1990 and 1991. Junior world championships gold medal 1988, world championships bronze medal 1989 and 1990, gold medal 1991. Olympic gold medal 1992.

7. Philipp Schuller
Phillips Academy, US, Graves Kloster, Berlin, Harvard and St Catherine's
Age 27. 6ft 5in. 13st 8lb.
German. Reading Japanese politics (postgraduate). Henley finalist 1986 and 1989, West German championships silver medal 1990, US collegiate gold medal 1987-9, world championships 1990.

Stroke. Ian Gardiner
Glasgow Academy and St Peter's
Age 21. 6ft. 12st 12½lb.
British. Reading engineering and economics. Blue 1992. Home countries match for Scotland.

Cox. Samantha Benham
St Mary's, Calne and Brasenose
Age 21. 5ft 7in. 7st 7lb.
British. Reading experimental psychology. Coxed Oxford women's crew and Isis at Henley 1992.

Average age: 24 years 7 months.
Average weight: 13st 12¼lb.

CAMBRIDGE

Bow. Dirk Bangert
Deutschhaus Gymnasium Würzburg, Universität Würzburg and Fitzwilliam
Age 25. 6ft 2in. 12st 9lb.
German. Reading physics (postgraduate). Blue 1992. Junior world championships 1984 and 1985, world under-23 championships silver medal 1987 and gold medal 1989, World Student Games bronze medal 1989, British national champion 1992.

2. David Gillard
Bedford Modern and St Catharine's
Age 21. 6ft 2in. 13st 2½lb.
British. Reading natural sciences. Blue 1991 and 1992. World under-23 championships bronze medal 1990, silver medal 1991 and gold medal 1992, Henley winner (two events) 1992.

3. James Behrens (president)
Radley, Reading University and Downing
Age 23. 6ft 5in. 13st 10½lb.
British. Reading law (postgraduate). Blue 1992. National champion 1992.

4. Richard Phelps
Latymer Upper and St Edmund's
Age 27. 6ft 5in. 14st.
British. Reading land economy. World championships gold medal 1988 and 1990, bronze medal 1989 and 1991, Henley winner 1991, Olympic Games 1992.

5. Jon Bernstein
Phillips Academy, Harvard and St Edmund's
Age 24. 6ft 3in. 14st 8½lb.
American. Reading land economy (postgraduate). Junior world championships bronze medal 1985, silver medal 1986, world championships 1989 and 1990, US collegiate gold medal 1988 and 1989, Henley winner 1990.

6. Malcolm Baker
St Albans, Brown University, US, and St Edmund's
Age 23. 6ft 6in. 14st 2½lb.
American. Reading finance (postgraduate). US national championships silver medal 1990 and gold medals 1991, world championships 1990 and 1991, Olympics 1992.

7. Sinclair Gore
Methodist College, Belfast, and Jesus
Age 19. 6ft 4in. 15st 1lb.
British. Reading medicine. Junior world championships 1990, 1991.

Stroke. Will Mason
Shrewsbury and Trinity Hall
Age 20. 6ft. 12st 9lb.
British. Reading medicine. Goldie 1992. National schools champion 1991.

Cox. Martin Haycock
Abingdon and Magdalene
Age 18. 5ft 6in. 7st 9½lb.
British. Reading land economy. Ghent international regatta medal-winner 1991 and 1992.

Average age: 24 years 1 month.
Average weight: 13st 10½lb.



Manners: Games reserve

McCague earns England chance

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

A FAST bowler born in Northern Ireland and raised in Australia was yesterday identified as the potential wild card in England's challenge for the Ashes this summer. Martin McCague, one of the leading factors behind Kent's rise to second place in the county championship last year, will play for England A against Essex in the season's curtain-raiser.

McCague, 23 and a muscular 6ft 5in, was not considered for any of the ill-fated winter tours because he had not openly committed his future to England rather than Australia. Once this was done, he took part in several England fringe sessions at Lilleshall and this early chance is a measure of the impression he made while taking 53 championship wickets last summer.

All but three of the 12 selected for the match at Chelmsford from April 22 to 25 were on the recently completed A team tour of Australia. The exceptions are McCague, Ian Salisbury and John Crawley.

Although only 21, and without a full first-class season behind him, Crawley is widely acknowledged as a future Test player and would probably have made the A tour this year but for his academic commitments at Cambridge.

He is now available to Lancashire full-time, after sitting his finals in June, and the selectors will want to assess him against the rival claims of Mark Lathwell and Graham Thorpe, both of whom had a successful tour.

Andy Caddick, Lathwell's Somerset team-mate, has also had his tour performance recognised and he will share the new ball with McCague. Dominic Cork has the all-rounder's role and James Boiling, the Surrey off-spin bowler, who won his tour place through Salisbury's late promotion, now has the chance to partner him.

Martyn Moxon retains the captaincy of the A team and Jack Russell will keep wicket.

ENGLAND A (from): M D Moxon (Yorkshire, captain), M A Roseberry (Middlesex), M N Lathwell (Somerset), G P Thorpe (Surrey), G D Lloyd (Lancashire), J P Crawley (Lancashire), D G Cork (Derbyshire), R C Russell (Gloucestershire), I D K Salisbury (Sussex), J Boiling (Surrey), A R Caddick (Somerset), M J McCague (Kent).

هكذا من الأصل

Blatter the lawmaker on a tireless crusade to lead football back to its roots

Great reformer seeks return to English virtues



Rob Hughes profiles a zealot who is attempting to end the glorification of thuggery

IN THE two worlds of international football, symbolised by the globes which form the Fifa symbol, we have the snarling face of Vinnie Jones and the smile of Sepp Blatter, the general secretary and chief executive of a game that is organised in 170 countries for almost 200 million participants.

What possible connection can there be? Jones, who appears in that grubby little video which eulogises the thuggery and the force by which professionals prevent others from playing, set against Blatter, whose zeal in attempting to change the laws of the game is bent on returning football to what he calls its original purpose.

The connection is this. In Zurich yesterday, Blatter commented: "We will not be beaten by those people who want to destroy this game. In the statutes of Fifa, it is written that we must protect the game from all improper methods and abuses. I have seen only part of this video featuring Jones, but I think Fifa should take it up with your national association."

Blatter goes further. In his opinion, the decline of Britain's influence abroad is not as great as is sometimes believed. He points out that the very character of the game is English (not even British), and that still around the world, particularly in places such as Asia and Africa it is the honesty with which England set about the game that is mirrored and copied, even if the old country can no longer claim to have missionary administrators spreading the gospel to the far corners.

Yet Blatter himself, drawing more and more personal influence and power in the way the game is run, comes into conflict even with our more acceptable ambassadors. A week ago he was in Atlanta with Bobby Charlton, and for the second time in recent meetings Charlton accused him of destroying the game with his rapid changes of laws. It was Blatter who introduced, and steered the new back-pass law through Fifa's executive committee. With his Swiss mix of civility and propriety, he doggedly seeks more change.

Some of us acknowledge that, particularly outside these islands, the back-pass law has dramatically improved the approach to football in countries such as Italy where negativity, coached by men earning more than prime ministers, had reigned for so long. On top of that, Blatter seeks to exchange the throw-in with a kick-in. He pursues a course of ever-decreasing age limits for referees, the consequence of which is that England will probably for the first time send no arbiter to the next World Cup.

Behind the scenes he also pushes through changes in the laws of how national executive committees are selected, and he confronts the European Community rules insisting that football has no exclusion from the freedom of movement of workers on the Continent.

Blatter spoke on that very subject to John Major last month. Worried that men such as Milan's Silvio Berlusconi and others are pushing the limits of hiring players, often to waste their prime on the bench, and that the same men seek to push through Uefa a European club championship, he told our prime minister: "If we no longer have the best teams in our national leagues, the promotional effect will disappear. Young people will go to other sports, and the biggest danger of all is that there will be no more England national team, no French national team ... the end of national team football."



Blatter: pioneer

Of course, Blatter seeks to protect Fifa's baby, the World Cup, which according to him grossed 26 billion TV viewers in 1990, compared with 16 billion for the whole of the Barcelona Olympics last year.

Major, convincing the chief executive of the world game that his heart lies close to football, asked Blatter to draw up some proposals. They are in the pipeline.

Meanwhile, Blatter and the executive committee will, in less than two months, introduce new rules to control the work of football agents, to recognise their existence but to stop what he calls the practise of "rent-a-player" where scurrilous agents sign individual players to more than one club in order to hype their value and contracts.

In addition, he is pioneering sudden death after 90 minutes rather than penalties, and is waging a campaign against players who feign injury. Many of his reforms, he says, would not be necessary if we had better, less conservative referees. The men in black, he argues, are like England itself; they think of themselves as an island and they resist any attempts to improve the flow of the game.

You would imagine that all this would be more than enough for this 57-year-old son of a chemical plant worker. Blatter admits that he has not had a very happy family life "because I'm a difficult character, rather independent, working all the time".

But accuse Blatter of not loving his game (which, incidentally, he was prevented from playing professionally because his father said it would not give him a serious living) and you spark the defiance in this former Swiss army colonel. "I have to fight you on that," he said. "I have to battle. When you try to say that my reforms are too zealous, I reply that the only thing I am trying to do is to bring back the game to its origin. That is to make it so that players go for goal, to make it again a game — even with all the politics and this money — that the spectator, in the stadiums or via television, can enjoy as a spectacle.

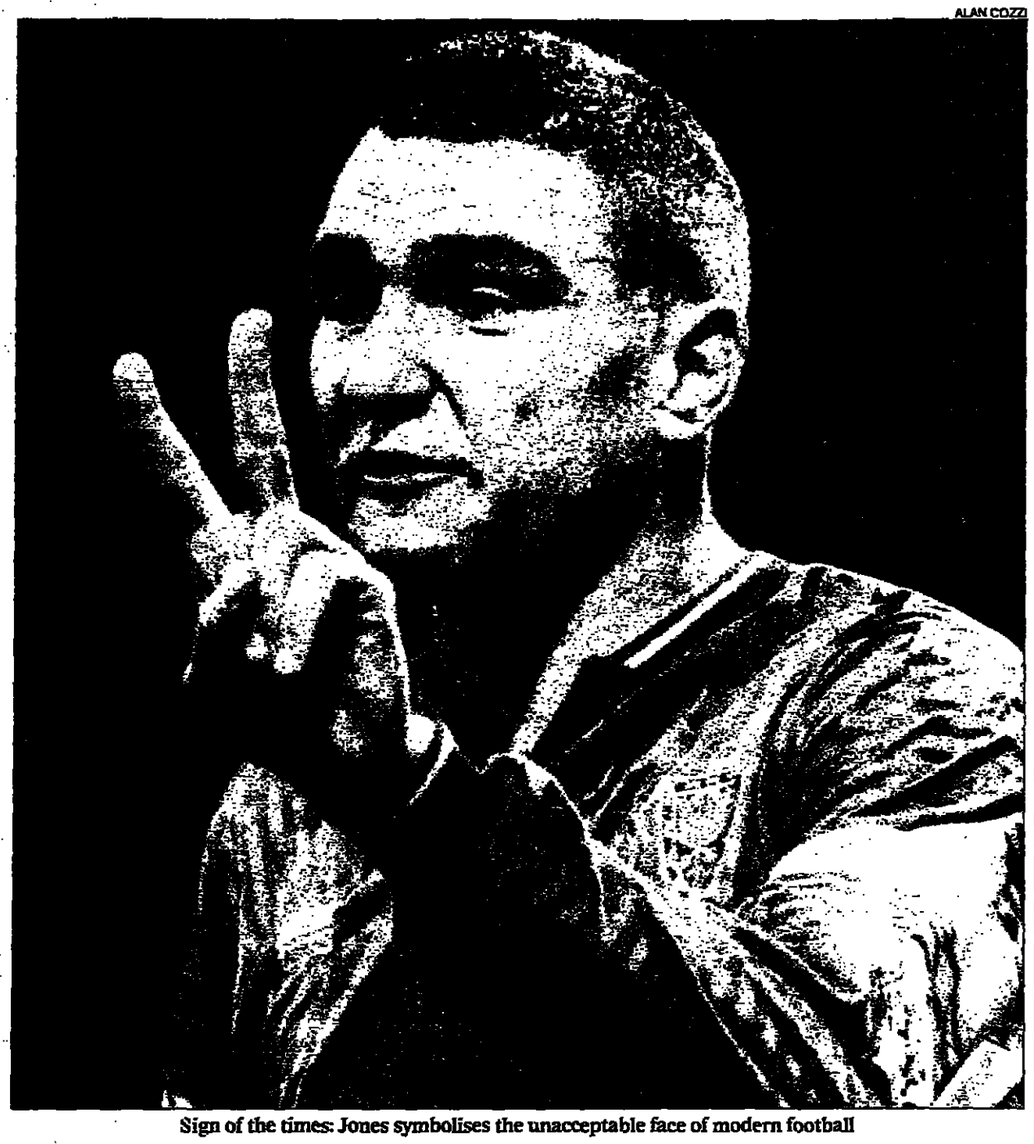
"Don't tell me that Vinnie Jones tries to play this game properly. Don't tell me Gentile was doing anything enjoyable when he tried to stop Maradona in 1982. Football with such people, and with cheats who try to stop the play, would as Bobby Charlton tried to say to me, only destroy itself."

But when a game becomes so important, when its gross national turnover exceeds that of virtually any entity in the world, how does the chief administrator himself stay above accusation? The question of bribery triggered an astonished reaction. "In my position, with my personality, I can say that I have brought credit to the whole organisation of Fifa with integrity and loyalty," he said. His salary is equal to that of the chief executive of any multi-national company, and that, he says, would mean he is not open to any bribe. "My reputation is such that no one would even try."

However, during the campaign for the 1998 World Cup which will be in France, one of the other competing countries did use agents to try to offer bribes to two members of Fifa. They both reported the attempts to Blatter and the miscreants were *persona non grata* even before the vote.

Blatter is the general secretary, not the president of Fifa. But Joao Havelange, 77, the Brazilian president who intends to run again for office next year, has in Blatter's own words "abandoned many powers to me". Blatter has the power without the presidency, and he admits: "I do not know which is better — to have the title or the power." He certainly enjoys the latter.

ALAN COZZI



Sign of the times: Jones symbolises the unacceptable face of modern football

Players urged to stop fighting

By Keith Pike

GORDON Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), yesterday appealed to his members to show restraint as accusations of cheating and violent play threatened to tarnish the game.

"We have to agree standards of discipline, but ultimately the responsibility rests with the players themselves," Taylor said.

Players, particularly in the Premier League, were "under the microscope more than ever" because of increased television coverage, Taylor said. "I think it has got home to them that there are not many hiding places now if they are not playing within the laws of the game."

Taylor's comments came after Viv Anderson, the Sheffield Wednesday defender, accused Wimbledon of bully-boy tactics during their midweek game, and appealed to the FA to act against the club before a player is "seriously injured".

Anderson needed treatment after an off-the-ball incident involving John Fashanu, the Wimbledon striker, who was sent off. The pair also clashed in the players' tunnel at Plough Lane in November 1988, for which they were fined and suspended.

Neither the FA nor the PFA will act until each has studied the referee's report, but Taylor said: "They are mature professionals and the ultimate responsibility rests with them."

Tony Dorigo, the Leeds United left back, has been given until tomorrow morning to prove his fitness or be withdrawn from the England squad for their World Cup qualifying tie against Turkey in Izmir on Wednesday. Andy Sinton, the Queens Park Rangers midfield player, is the most likely replacement. Bardsley, Deane, Merson and Walker are also having treatment for injuries.

☐ The Torquay chairman, Mike Bateson's, plan to block relegation from the Football League has been foiled because the FA will not sanction any agreement that produces more than 24 clubs in any division.

Hesitant Pakistan are kept in check

From John Woodcock in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

NOT a lot went right for Pakistan here again yesterday in their second one-day international against West Indies. They were hoping to win the toss and field first; instead they lost it and were put in. Their batsmen kept either getting themselves out when starting to get set or running into trouble between the wickets. When rain reduced their innings from 50 overs to 45, it was more to the advantage of the side batting second.

In the end, a target of 194 at 4.3 runs an over was the best Pakistan could set West Indies.

Yet, as in Jamaica in the first of these matches, the West Indian bowling was nothing like as accurate as it should have been. The wides sent down soon ran into double figures, with the no-balls in early pursuit. With Sohail opening up gaps in the field and the pitch as gentle as could be, the first 15 overs of Pakistan's innings were the most productive. By the time of the hold-up, after an hour's play, Ramiz and Sohail had been caught at mid-off and mid-on respectively.

Last Tuesday's crowd was believed to be a record for Sabina Park. Yesterday, the Queen's Park Oval was full by 9am, as it will be again today for another one-day international. There is growing concern, even so, about the viability of domestic cricket in the West Indies. As in the Sheffield Shield in Australia, or, for that matter, the county championship in England, attendances in the Shell Shield have been declining. When Trinidad met the Leeward Islands here a few weeks ago there were never more than 400 people at a day's play.

Like Sohail and Ramiz yesterday, Inzamam was out after getting a sight of the ball, paying the price for momentary hesitation when called for a quick single by Javed. There is no more popular visitor to Trinidad than Javed, particularly among his fellow Muslims, and they were treated now to the little man's repertoire of nurdles and nudges and back-handed paddles.

After all these years, the West Indians know ways of frustrating him, but he is still a joy to watch and Basit Ali was working the ball round like his mentor by the end of their fourth-wicket partnership of 62. But Pakistan's last ten overs yielded only 54 runs, progress that was never free enough to give them a favourite's chance of winning.

PAKISTAN

Aamir Sohail c Richardson b Simmons	47
Ramiz Raja c Richardson b Bishop	15
Inzamam-ul-Haq run out	11
Javed Miandad c Simmons b Hooper	41
Basit Ali c Haynes b Walsh	34
*Wasim Akram run out	0
†Rashid Latif run out	10
Waqar Younis not out	4
Mushtaq Ahmad not out	0
Extras (b1, lb6, nb5, w20)	32
Total (7 wkts, 45 overs)	194

Aka-ur-Rahman and Amer Nazar did not bat

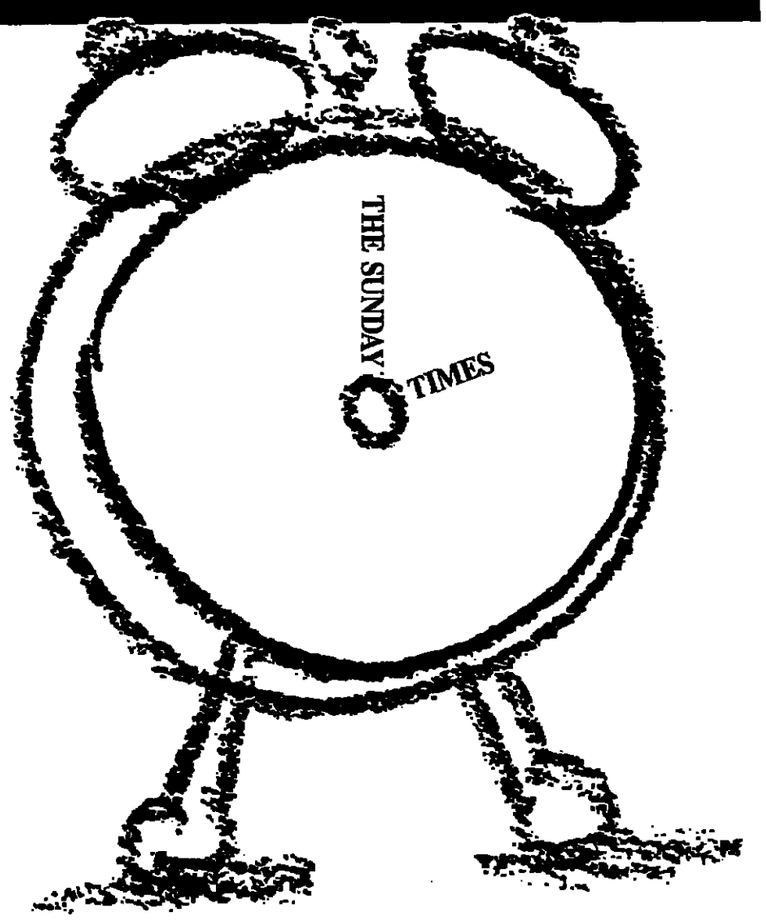
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-56, 2-85, 3-108, 4-170, 5-170, 6-187, 7-188.

BOWLING: Ambrose 10-0-42-0 (nb 1, w 4); Walsh 8-2-31-1 (nb 1, w 1); Bishop 7-0-42-1 (nb 3, w 5); Simmons 10-1-34-1 (w 8); Hooper 10-0-41-1 (w 2).

WEST INDIES: *R B Richardson, D L Haynes, B C Lara, P V Simmons, C L Hooper, A L Logie, J C Adams, †J R Murray, C E L Ambrose, I R Bishop, C A Walsh.

Umpires: S U Bucknor and C E Cumberbatch.

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BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta Hawks 106, Houston Rockets 96; Utah Jazz 104, New York Knicks 87; Indiana Pacers 120, Seattle SuperSonics 117; Denver Nuggets 99, Golden State Warriors 88; Portland Trail Blazers 113, Sacramento Kings 111.

BOWLS

STEVENAGE: English Women's Indoor Bowling Association national championships: Singles: B Brown (Colchester) bt S Sullivan (Whiteleghes), 21-13; J Rowlence (North Walsham) bt D Kennelly (York), 21-9; A McPherson (Avon Valley) bt T Barton (Croydon), 21-14; M Price (Desborough Middlenead) bt S Bloomfield (Tye Green), 21-20. Quarter-finales: D Selyer (Mote Park) bt N Edwards (British Callophane), 21-15; L Jarman (Cambridge Chesterton) bt G Haney (Spalding), 21-10; J Rowlence (North Walsham) bt B Brown (Colchester), 21-18. Price bt McPherson 21-20. Semi-finals: Selyer bt Jarman 21-14. Fours: Quarter-finals: Carlisle bt Croydon, 24-20; Towerlands bt Tye Green, 26-18; York bt Oxford City and County, 25-16; Preston bt Dorchester, 27-24. Semi-finals: York (H Walker) bt Preston Park Brighton (B Durrant), 29-14; Carlisle (J Armstrong) bt Towerlands (C Duckworth), 18-17.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Final (first day of two): Queensland 226-4 (S Law 124 not out, T Barsby 51) v New South Wales (in Sydney).

EQUESTRIANISM

ZURICH: International show: Pierrot-Hiss: 1, Rosire (E Newst, Fr), 0 faults, 75.40sec; 2, Arsenatio (H Simon, Austria), 0, 76.85; 3, Hercass Elirel (O Becker, Ger), 0, 77.00. Swiss Life grand prix: 1, Everest Alton (J Whitaker, GB), 35.94; 2, Quinto C (W Melliger, Switz), 36.12; 3, Almox Classic Touch (R Schneider, Ger), 43.32. Prix Champagne Mumm: 1, Allez France D (H Simon, Austria), 22pts (61.05sec); 2, Stroke Of Luck (M Beerbaum, Ger), 21 (61.31); 3, Jmox Rush On (L Beerbaum, Ger), 21 (61.88).

'S HERTOGENBOSCH, Holland: Volvo World Cup dressage final: Grand prix: 1, Hammedes TecRant (M Theodorescu, Ger), 1,707 pts; 2, Ideal (S Rothenberger, Ger), 1,648; 3, Floanne (I Werth, Ger), 1,624. British placing: 10, Quamyman (L Fry), 1,517.

FOOTBALL

Late results on Thursday

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Dagenham and Redbridge 1, Wycombe 2.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Group one: Italy 3, Malta 0.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Burgos 0, Atlético Madrid 2.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION LEAGUE: First division: QPR 3, Crystal Palace 1; Ipswich 1, Arsenal 1.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Stoke 0, Sunderland 2; Sheffield Utd 1, Notts Forest 3. Second division: Scunthorpe 2, Coventry 0.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS ADIDAS UNDER-19 TROPHY: Regional final: West Midlands 2, Merseyside 0. Wonal Shield: First: Plymouth 1, Exeter 2.

GOLF

RANCHO MIRAGE, California: Women's tournament: Leading first-round scores: (US unless stated): 68: N Lopez, M Figueras-Dotti (Sp), M Bernardi. 69: S Barrett, D Ammaccapane, H Alfredsson (Swe). 70: J Pacock, A-M Palli (Fr), D Massey, A Finney, V Fergon, T Barrett. 71: C Walker, E King, J Crafter (Aus), P Bradley. British scores: 72: L Davies, 74: P Wright; T Johnson.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Boston Bruins 2, Montreal Canadiens 0; Washington Capitals 5, New York Islanders 2; Tampa Bay Lightning 3, Ottawa Senators 2; Philadelphia Flyers 5, San Jose Sharks 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, New Jersey Devils 3; Toronto Maple Leafs 3, Minnesota North Stars 3 (OT); Buffalo Sabres 6, Chicago Blackhawks 4.

EINDHOVEN: World championship: Pool B: Holland 15, China 1.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB, London: Maitre d'Estournel European open doubles championship (GB unless stated): Group one: W Davies and L Deucher (Aus) bt M Davine and K Sheldon, 5-6, 6-4, 6-0; Davine and Sheldon bt C Lumley and A Phillips, 6-1, 6-4. Qualifiers: Davies and Deucher, Davine and Sheldon. Group 2: J Howell and J Male bt C Bray and M Gooding, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3; J Snow and M Wood bt Bray and Gooding, 6-2, 5-6, 6-5; Snow and Wood bt Howell and Male, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2. Qualifiers: Snow and Wood, Howell and Male. Semi-final: W Davies and L Deucher (Aus) bt J Howell and J Male 6-2, 1-6, 6-1, 6-4.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Cross Keys 44, Lince (Arg) 24.

TOUR MATCH: Auckland 46 Western Province (SA) 24.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Second division: Huddersfield 17, London Crusaders 2.

SKIING

ARE, Sweden: World Cup: Super-giant slalom: Men: 1, K Aamodt (Nor), 1min 07.42sec; 2, G Mader (Austria), 1:07.49; 3, P Hertzer (Switz), 1:07.51; 4, M Hangl (Switz), 1:07.59; equal 5, P Accola (Switz), P Ortlieb (Austria), 1:07.60. Super-giant slalom standings: 1, Aamodt, 420pts; 2, Mader, 307; 3, Heinzer, 301; 4, Thorsen, 284; 5, M Girardelli (lt), 216. Overall: 1, Girardelli, 1,319; 2, Aamodt, 1,157; 3, Heinzer, 826; 4, Mader, 800; 5, A Tomba (lt), 737. Women: 1, K Selzinger (Ger), 53.07sec; 2, U Maier (Austria), 53.21; 3, D Compagnoni (lt), 53.31; 4, R Cavegnoud (Fr), 53.47; 5, R Hitusl (Ger), 53.54. Super-giant slalom standings: 1, Selzinger, 371; 2, Maier, 356; 3, Merle, 328; 4, Wachter, 313; 5, S Eder, 263. Overall: 1, Selzinger, 1,216; 2, Wachter, 1,202; 3, C Merle (Fr), 998; 4, M Vogt (Ger), 883; 5, Maier, 849.

SNOOKER

GOFFS, Co. Kildare: Benson and Hedges Irish Masters: Quarter-final: A McManus (Scot) bt J White (Eng), 5-2; S Davis (Eng) bt K Doherty (Rep of Ire), 5-3.

SPEED SKATING

PEKING: World short-track championships: Men: 1,500m: 1, S Gagnon (Can), 2min 30.22sec; 2, Kim Ki-hoon (S Kor), 2:30.43; 3, Chae Ji-hoon (S Kor), 2:30.44. Women: 1,500m: 1, N Lambert (Can), 2:39.42; 2, Chun Lee-kyung (S Kor), 2:39.66; 3, Wang Xiulan (China), 2:39.71.

SQUASH

BSPA CHAMPIONSHIP (at Chesnunt and Beckenham): First round: D Meddings (Surrey) bt A Davies (Wales), 15-12, 15-10, 15-10; J Ransome (Essex) bt P Johnson (Kent), 15-11, 15-4, 13-15, 15-8; S Meads (Berks) bt D Webb (Essex), 15-6, 15-12, 15-7; C Walker (Essex) bt P Carter (Herts), 15-12, 15-7, 15-10; T Garner (Sussex) bt H Stat (Devon), 15-8, 6-15, 15-10, 15-13; P Marshall (Leicestershire) bt M Cairns (Oxfordshire), 15-8, 15-14, 15-6.

GUERNSEY: Open championship: Second round: M Martin (Aus) bt B Hoggendoorn (Holl), 9-0, 9-4, 9-2; S FitzGerald (Aus) bt T Myllymemi (Fin), 9-5, 9-0, 9-0; S Wright (Eng) bt J Martin (Eng), 9-1, 5-9, 9-5, 9-6; S Schone (Ger) bt R Macrae (Eng), 9-1, 9-6, 9-1; S Horner (Eng) bt H Van Hoorn (Holl), 9-2, 9-2, 9-0; L Irving (Aus) bt R O'Callaghan (Ire), 9-5, 9-4, 9-2; C Nitch (SA) bt L Charman (Eng), 9-3, 10-8, 0-9, 9-2; M Le Moignan (Eng) bt S Bradey (Aus), 9-1, 9-4, 9-2.

SPEEDWAY

BRITISH LEAGUE: First division: Ipswich 70, Belle Vue 38.

BARCLAYS BANK CUP: First leg: Middlesbrough 65, Newcastle 43.

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: World group: First round: Melbourne: Australia lead United States, 2-0: W Masur (Aus) bt B Gilbert (US), 6-3, 6-7, 8-4, 6-2; M Woodforde (Aus) bt D Wheaton (US), 9-6, 7-6, 8-4. 64 Vienna: France lead Austria, 2-0: A Boetsch (Fr) bt H Skoff (Austria), 6-2, 7-6, 6-1; G Forget (Fr) bt A Antonitsch, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3. Calcutta: India level with Switzerland, 1-1: L Paes (India) bt J Hlasek (Switz), 7-5, 6-1, 6-2; M Roesst (Switz) bt R Krishnan (India), 7-6, 4-5, 6-3, 7-6. Barcelona: Holland lead Spain, 1-0: P Haarhuis (Holl) bt S Bruguera (Sp), 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2. Modena: Italy lead Brazil, 1-0: D Nargiso (Italy) bt J Oncins (Br), 7-5, 6-2, 6-3. Moscow: Germany leads Russia, 1-0: C-U Steob (Ger) bt A Cherkasov (Russ), 4-6, 1-6, 6-4, 7-6, 6-4. Kalmar: Sweden lead Cuba, 1-0: S Edberg (Swe) J Pino (Cuba), 6-2, 6-2, 6-2. American zone: Santiago: Chile lead Canada, 1-0. Asia/Oceania group: First round: Hong Kong: Japan lead Hong Kong, 2-0. Bangkok: Thailand lead Pakistan, 2-0.

HOUSTON, Texas: Women's Virginia Slims tournament: Second round: S Cacchini (It) bt K Maleeva (Bul), 7-6, 6-0; R Zrubakova (Slo) bt R Simpson-Aiser (Can), 6-1, 5-7, 6-2; P Tarabini (Arg) bt V Ruano-Pasqual (Sp), 6-4, 6-1; G Sabatini (Arg) bt D Graham (US), 6-0, 6-1.



Straining at the leash: the Cambridge crew practising their starting technique from the stake boat on the Tideway yesterday.

Foreign tide floods Boat Race



David Miller believes that British undergraduates may be getting a raw deal in the drive for success

IT IS a happy characteristic of the British to absorb foreigners into their culture and traditions. So should we really be dismayed, or surprised, that the Boat Race, epitome of both national sporting events that transcend sport and of ancient educational heritage, has become so multi-racial?

There will be as many foreign oarsmen on the Tideway between Putney and Mortlake this afternoon as generic British: five of them in the Oxford boat. There will, too, be eight postgraduates. Many observers, in and outside rowing, consider it wrong that undergraduates have a decreasing opportunity to represent their university in an event so definitively British.

When sovereignty is being surrendered to Brussels, industry to Japan, art treasures to overseas buyers and fishing rights to France, ought not a simple rowing race to be preserved for those who invented it? Is Philipp Schuller, a 27-year-old German who arrived at St Catherine's, Oxford, via Berlin and Harvard, right when he says that one of the most respected races in the world should not be restricted to British students between the age of 19 and 21?

Many changes to the student population of Oxford and Cambridge over the past 20 years — the increase in the proportion of women entries, the greater emphasis on academic qualification, the rise in foreign postgraduates to help pay the bills — militates against the argument of traditionalists, who see the character of the race being eroded.

Yet the argument of one of the most British of all today's contestants, Matthew Pinsent, Eton and St Catherine's, Oxford president, and a hero of last year's Olympic Games with Steven Redgrave in the coxless pairs, is unequivocal. "I want the boat to go as fast as possible," Pinsent says, in that resonant, unselfconscious voice that makes the walls of an empty changing-room vibrate.

If the ethos of the event is excellence as well as tradition, then the two boat clubs themselves find no contradiction in selecting the best. Pinsent reasons that if they are including prominent foreign internationals, then the prestige for British undergraduates who make the grade becomes even higher: that British exclusivity would demean and devalue the race.

"I think the Boat Race benefits," he says. "A student oarsman knows by the time he is 18 whether he is going to be good enough to get a blue by the age of 22 or 23. Junior gold medallists have always made it to the Blue boat."

James Behrens, the Cambridge president, echoes this view. Consumed with the introspective concern to end Oxford domination, Behrens may lack Pinsent's more worldly wisdom when handling the pressures of the countdown but finds it wholly acceptable to carry a German, Bangert, at bow and Americans at No. 5 and No. 6.

"All our boat are at Cambridge on academic merit," he says. "They came for a particular course ... and they also row." He doubts whether the command of places by foreigners and postgraduates — he himself arrived via Reading University — will erode the motivation of potential British candidates for Oxbridge. "It will be competitive, whoever comprises the field," he says.

Whether there should be a mutually agreed, voluntary limit of, say, one year in the boat for postgraduates is another matter. As a traditionalist, I would favour such a rule. The continuation in the Eighties of the veteran Rankov for six years with Oxford, a 30-year-old parent and college tutor, was clearly unwelcome. Yet younger Oxbridge members argue that the sovereignty of the two universities is being upheld, not tarnished, by the inclusion of any eligible graduate student.

Certainly it does not bother Beefeater, the race sponsors, for whom controversy is a publicity bonus. What the sponsors must hope, however, is that in the 139th race Cambridge can halt a boringly one-sided sequence of Oxford victories — 16 of the last 17 have gone to the dark blues and the last six in succession.

Evidence suggests they may. The impression of the past few days work at Putney is that Cambridge are technically the smoother, Oxford possibly the more powerful — if they can harness it. The Oxford scene has outwardly been, Pinsent admits, a picture of indecision: changed oars, changed cox, internal disagreements.

"We know we've got a crew to beat," he says, "and we've got to respond to pressure." He seems happy to take the gamble that the bigger blade will provide more early speed even if at the price of earlier fatigue.

As Pinsent reflects, philosophical at a time every bit as momentous for him as last year's Olympics, you can never be sure that what you see beforehand is what you will get on Boat Race day. Therein lies much of the mystique.

Oxford favourites, page 34
Portrait, page 34
Crew guide, page 34
Young blades, Section 3, page 10

Official whose nod cheered millions

BY KEITH PIKE

A MONTH after the death of Bobby Moore, who captained England to the 1966 World Cup, the linesman who played a crucial role in the victory over West Germany in the final has also died.

Tofik Bakhramov, the Azerbaijani whose nod of assent allowed England's third goal in their 4-2 victory to stand, was 66. According to a Fifa spokesman, he died in the former Soviet republic, where he was general secretary of the national football association.

None of the 93,802 people inside Wembley that July day, nor the millions watching on television, will forget the moment which established Bakhramov as either hero or villain, depending on which country they were supporting.

Weber had forced extra time with West Germany's equaliser seconds from the end of 90 minutes, and the first period was almost up when Stiles set Ball free down the right.

The cross came over, Geoff Hurst controlled the ball and his right-foot shot flew over Tilkowski, the German goalkeeper, and bounced down off the underside of the crossbar before Weber headed clear.

Roger Hunt, who might have tried to reach the loose ball, turned instead to acclaim a goal; Tilkowsi waved his hands to dispute it. Had the ball crossed the line? A nation held its breath.

Gottfried Dienst, the Swiss referee, did not know. Bakhramov, a short, stocky figure with long, baggy shorts and a moustache bristling with authority, thought he did. He spoke neither Swiss nor English, but the nod was enough.

Dienst turned on his heels and pointed to the centre circle, West German protests were waved away, and Bakhramov strode purposefully to take up his position for the kick-off, his job done. Fifteen minutes later, Hurst completed his hat-trick and it was all over.

Plea to players, page 35

Hill mounts rising challenge to Prost and Senna

FROM OLIVER HOLT
IN SÃO PAULO

DAMON Hill yesterday broke the duopoly established by Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna in South Africa a fortnight ago when he split the two three-time world champions in the first qualifying session for the Brazilian grand prix tomorrow.

Prost comfortably claimed the provisional pole position for the race, finishing more than a second in front of Hill, but the Englishman went some way towards erasing the memories of his poor Kyalami display with a series of smoothly controlled fast laps.

The extent of the Didcot-based team's power advantage has only become apparent here, where the long straights in front of the pits bring the best out of the Renault-powered engine. At Kyalami, where it is notoriously difficult to overtake, that advantage was negated by the speed of Senna's McLaren-Ford through the fast corners. But here, he was powerless to hit back.

Senna could only get within 0.8sec of Hill's time. Michael Schumacher held off the challenge of Karl Wendlinger, in the Sauber, to finish fourth.

In spite of Prost's performance, it was Hill's time that gave the Williams team most cause for celebration. His driving seemed devoid of the nervousness and disruptive spins that marred his qualifying performances in South Africa. "It's all smiles in there," one of the team officials said outside their garage.

Hill said: "If I can qualify in the top three, I shall be very happy. The track is a bit tricky to learn because it is quite bumpy in places. I'm very pleased to be at the sharp end, not having been here before. I cannot afford to get in to trouble again after the last race.

"I am still going to have to be extremely committed because if you are not aggressive, you stand more chance of making a mistake. The mechanics here have a saying that you are only as good as your last race. Well, I have turned that around to the adage that you are only as good as your next race."

The obvious inferiority of the McLaren-Ford that was betrayed here yesterday could lessen Senna's desire to continue racing for the team this season. He is famed for his all-out performances in the final day of qualifying but even he may struggle to eat away at the Williams advantage today.

The other mooted challenger to the Williams, Michael Schumacher, in the Benetton, is also struggling to put pressure on Prost and Hill. It was a disappointing day for Mark Blundell, too. He finished third on his debut for Ligier in South Africa but could finish only twelfth in the first session of qualifying.

Martin Brundle, his teammate, finished fourteenth. "While we were strong in South Africa, we know we had a little bit of luck," Blundell said. "Hard as we are trying, everyone else in the pit lane is working just as hard. I am not going to put any extra pressure on myself by expecting to do as well as I did in South Africa and neither is the team."



LEADING PRACTICE TIMES: 1, A Prost (Fr), Williams, 1mn 16.809sec (126.700mph); 2, D Hill (GB), Williams, 1:17.896; 3, A Senna (Br), McLaren, 1:18.639; 4, M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 1.19.051; 5, K Wendlinger (Austria), Sauber, 1:19.230; 6, J Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 1:19.260; 7, G Berger (Austria), Ferrari, 1:19.561; 8, J Herbert (GB), Lotus, 1:19.830; 9, P Alliot (Fr), Larrousse, 1:20.057; 10, E Comas (Fr), Larrousse, 1:20.061.

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Breaking with tradition

THE Hong Kong sevens rugby tournament has always been an expat shindig, raucous and boozy. In fact, the Monday after the sevens is traditionally the busiest day of the year for the local branch of Alcoholics Anonymous. But there are a couple of odd breaks with tradition this year. The first is that the Hong Kong Rugby Football Union has been making belated but creditable efforts to involve the Chinese. They are at present trumpeting the names of a few rising players and anticipating the day when the first Chinese plays for Hong Kong. The names are worth trumpeting, too: Marco Sze Tee-wah, and Rambo Leung Yung-kit.

Meanwhile, there is a booze ban at the sevens this year. Not for the entire tournament: the expats would be rioting in the streets. But the event takes place in the new, almost-but-not-quite complete Government stadium, which has a rake of 38 degrees. No booze on the top tiers, please, chaps.

Turning nasty

It seems Basil Fawlty is on the loose in Hampshire. A motorist was driving along a country lane when a football hit his car. It came from a village match between Sherborne Reserves and Herriard. The motorist went berserk. His number-plate had been broken: clearly life would never be the same again. He drove on to the pitch — female companion still in the car — and performed a series of handbrake turns in the goalmouth in order to ruin the pitch. Threatened, not surprisingly, by the players, he drove off and did the same thing in the gravelled car park, firing stones all over the place. He then drove off. "He was lucky not to get lynched," Tony Williamson, a Sherborne defender, said. Police are looking for a man "in his late 40s".



SIMON BARNES
Sporting Diary

Aleksandr Tatarkine, a former player for Spartak Moscow football club, recently joined Rostov. He had a brief but effective spell with his new club. On the first day of the Russian championship, he got into the safe, stole all the club's money and vanished. This swift and elusive striker is now believed to be somewhere in what was once Yugoslavia, with "many roubles" in his pocket.

James Lawrence, serving four years for robbery at Camp Hill prison on the Isle of Wight, has attracted Southampton's attention. He is allowed out on Saturdays to play for Cowes and Southampton have been eyeing him up. Eddie Walder, his PT instructor, said: "If Southampton want to take James for a week's trial, that would not prove too difficult. I have cleared it with the governor, and James could live near The Dell if need be."



Class fibre

Yes, more on cricketer's turnout. I have a letter from Johnnie Boden, who sells clothes. His catalogue has a cricket page: "The clothes really are the business," he tells me. Yes, Boden is bringing back creams. His cricket trousers even have those little buckles at the side to make them fit, and button flies as well. His shirt is flowing, graceful and a triumph of bagginess. Farewell nylon tracksuit bottoms that "insult the name of trousers"; farewell "tight, short-sleeved shirts gratuitously riddled with man-made fibres". I hope the England team adopts the look as soon as possible. I think the kit would look particularly good with designer stubble, myself.

Clean lift

I am baffled by a recent piece in the American *Sports Illustrated* magazine. Apparently Louis Luther has just won medals in the World Natural Powerlifting Federation championship. He hefted 565lb, which was enough to "win the natural division (drug-free for three years) and place third in the lifetime division (never used drugs)". I am intrigued by the concept of grading people by their degree of culpability. Is there a third category, I wonder: the Completely Stoned Out of Your Head on Steroids At This Moment in Time class?

Standard bearer

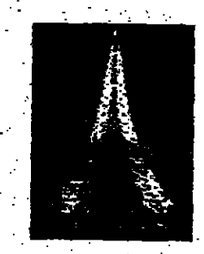
Richie Richardson will not be wearing the wide-brimmed crimson hat — the one he always wears when he plays for West Indies — when he turns out for Yorkshire this summer. I read in April's *Wisden Cricket Monthly*. "We have certain standards at the club and all players are expected to conform," the club secretary, David Ryder, said. I would not cause offence for the world, but I think in the last decade or so West Indies have risen to *slightly* higher standards than Yorkshire. Nor am I talking merely about cricketing ability.



FOOD AND DRINK

Bruno Loubet's kitchen class

Or how to put things right, page 10



HOLIDAYS

French leave from Boulogne to Paris

Plus how to miss the traffic, pages 6,7



WHAT TO WEAR

Young blades of the Boat Race

Dressed to make a splash, page 10

TEN TIPS ON BUYING A HOUSE
Page 13

WEEKEND

THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 27 1993

A Taj Mahal of a book, our literary editor called it this week — now read for yourselves two extracts from Vikram Seth's *A Suitable Boy*

Late for the wedding

"You too will marry a boy I choose," said Mrs Rupa Mehra firmly to her younger daughter.

Lata avoided the maternal imperative by looking around the great lamp-lit garden of Prem Nivas. The wedding-guests were gathered on the lawn. "Hmmm," she said. This annoyed her mother further.

"I know what your hmms mean, young lady, and I can tell you I will not stand for hmms in this matter. I do know what is best. I am doing it all for you. Do you think it is easy for me, trying to arrange things for all four of my children without His help?" Her nose began to redden at the thought of her husband, who would, she felt certain, be partaking of their present joy *from somewhere benevolently above*. Mrs Rupa Mehra believed, of course, in reincarnation, but at moments of exceptional sentiment, she imagined that the late Raghubir Mehra still inhabited the form in which she had known him when he was alive: the robust, cheerful form of his early forties before overwork had brought about his heart attack at the height of the second world war. Eight years ago, eight years, thought Mrs Rupa Mehra miserably.

'Now, now, Ma, you can't cry on Savita's wedding day' said Lata

"Now, now, Ma, you can't cry on Savita's wedding day," said Lata, putting her arm gently but not very concernedly around her mother's shoulder.

"If He had been here, I could have worn the tissue-patola sari I wore for my own wedding," sighed Mrs Rupa Mehra. "But it is too rich for a widow to wear."

"Ma!" said Lata, a little exasperated at the emotional capital her mother insisted on making out of every possible circumstance. "People are looking at you. They want to congratulate you, and they'll think it very odd if they see you crying in this way."

Several guests were indeed doing namasté to Mrs Rupa Mehra and smiling at her; the cream of Brahmpur society, she was pleased to note.

"Let them see me!" said Mrs Rupa Mehra defiantly, dabbing at her eyes hastily with a handkerchief perfumed with 4711 eau-de-Cologne. "They will only think it is because of my happiness at Savita's wedding. Everything I do is for you, and no one appreciates me. I have chosen such a good boy for Savita, and all everyone does is complain."

Lata reflected that of the four brothers and sisters, the only one who hadn't complained of the match had been the sweet-tempered, fair-complexioned, beautiful Savita herself.

"He is a little thin, Ma," said Lata a bit thoughtlessly. This was putting it mildly. Pran Kapoor, soon to be her brother-in-law, was lank, dark, gangly, and asthmatic.

"Thin? What is thin? Everyone is trying to become thin these days. Even I have had to fast the whole day and it is not good for my diabetes. And if Savita is not complaining, everyone should be happy with him. Arun and Varun are always complaining: why didn't they choose a boy for their sister then? Pran is a good, decent, cultured khatri boy."

There was no denying that Pran, at 30, was a good boy, a decent boy, and belonged to the right caste. And, indeed, Lata did like Pran. Oddly enough, she knew him better than her sister did — or, at least, had seen him for longer than her sister had. Lata was studying English at Brahmpur University, and Pran Kapoor was a popular lecturer there. Lata had attended his class on the Elizabethans, while Savita, the bride, had met him for only an hour, and that too in her mother's company.

"And Savita will fatten him up," added Mrs Rupa Mehra. "Why are you trying to annoy me when I am so happy? And Pran and Savita will be happy, you will see. They will be happy," she continued emphatically. "Thank you, thank you," she now beamed at those who were coming up to greet her. "It is so wonderful — the boy of my dreams, and such a good family. The Minister Sahib has been very kind to us. And Savita is so happy. Please eat something, please eat: they have made such delicious gulab-jamuns, but owing to my diabetes I cannot eat them even after the ceremonies. I am not even allowed gajak, which is so difficult to resist in winter. But please eat, please eat. I must go in to check what is happening: the time that the pandits have given is coming up, and there is no sign of either bride or groom!" She looked at Lata, frowning. Her younger *daughter was going to prove more difficult than her elder, she decided.*

"Don't forget what I told you," she said in an admonitory voice.

"Hmm," said Lata. "Ma, your handkerchief's sticking out of your blouse."

"Oh!" said Mrs Rupa Mehra, worriedly tucking it in. "And tell Arun to please take his duties seriously. He is just standing there in a corner talking to that Meenakshi and his silly friend from Calcutta. He should see that everyone is drinking and eating properly and having a gala time."

"That Meenakshi" was Arun's glamorous wife and her own disrespectful daughter-in-law. In four years of marriage Meenakshi's only worthwhile act, in Mrs Rupa Mehra's eyes, had been to give birth to her beloved grand-daughter, Aparna, who even now had found her way to her grandmother's brown silk sari and was *tugging it for attention. Mrs Rupa* Mehra was delighted. She gave her a kiss and told her: "Aparna, you must stay with your Mummy or with Lata Bua, otherwise you will get lost. And then where would we be?"

"Can't I come with you?" asked Aparna, who, at three, naturally had views and preferences of her own.

"Sweetheart, I wish you could," said Mrs Rupa Mehra, "but I have to make sure that your Savita Bua is ready to be married. She is so late already." And Mrs Rupa Mehra looked once again at the little gold watch that had been her husband's *first gift to her and which had not* missed a beat for two-and-a-half decades.

"I want to see Savita Bua!" said Aparna, holding her ground.

Mrs Rupa Mehra looked a little harassed and nodded vaguely at Aparna. Lata picked Aparna up. "When Savita Bua comes out, we'll go over there together, shall we, and I'll hold you up like this, and we'll both get a good view. Meanwhile, *should we go and see if we* can get some ice-cream?"

Aparna approved of this, as of most of Lata's suggestions. It was never too cold for ice-cream. They walked towards the buffet table together, three-year-old and 19-year-old hand in hand. A few rose-petals wafted down on them from somewhere.

"What is good enough for your sister is good enough for you," said Mrs Rupa Mehra to Lata as a parting shot.

"We can't both marry Pran," said Lata, laughing.

STEVE WALLACE



● A Suitable Boy *is published by Phoenix House, price £20. © Vikram Seth 1993. Mary Killen returns next week.*

'Why not have this parakeet? It will sing like an angel'

It was Sunday morning. The sky was bright and clear. The weekly bird market near the Barsaat Mahal was in full swing. Thousands of birds — mynas, partridges, pigeons, parakeets — fighting birds, eating birds, racing birds, talking birds — sat or fluttered in iron or cane cages in little stalls from which rowdy hawkers cried out the excellence and cheapness of their wares. The pavement had been taken over by the bird market, and buyers or passers-by like Ishaq had to walk on the road surface, bumping against rickshaws and bicycles and the occasional tonga.

There was even a pavement stall with books about birds. Ishaq picked up a flimsy, blunt-typed paperback about owls and spells, and looked idly through to see what uses this unlucky bird could be put to. It appeared to be a book of Hindu black magic, *The Tantra of Owls*, though it was printed in Urdu. He read:

Sovereign Remedy to Obtain Employment

Take the tail-feathers of an owl and a crow, and burn them together in a fire made from *mango wood until they form* ash. Place this ash on your *forehead like a caste-mark* when you go to seek employment, and you will most certainly obtain it.

He frowned and read on:

Method of keeping a Woman in Your Power

If you want to keep a woman in your control, and wish to prevent her from coming under the influence of anyone else, then use the technique described below:

Take the blood of an owl, the blood of a jungle fowl and the blood of a bat in equal proportions, and after smearing the mixture on your penis have intercourse with the woman. Then she will never desire another man.

Ishaq felt almost sick. These Hindus! he thought. On an impulse he bought the book, deciding that it was an excellent means of provoking his friend Motu Chand.

"I have one on vultures as well," said the bookseller helpfully.

"No, this is all I want," said Ishaq, and walked on.

He stopped at a stall where a large number of tiny, almost formless grey-green balls of stubbly flesh lay imprisoned in a booped cage.

"Ah!" he said.

His look of interest had an immediate effect on the white-capped stall-keeper, who appraised him, glancing at the book in his hand.

"These are not ordinary parakeets, Huzoor, these are hill parakeets, Alexandrine parakeets as the English sahibs say."

The English had left more than three years ago, but Ishaq let it pass.

"I know, I know," he said.

"I can tell an expert when I see one," said the stall-keeper in a most friendly manner. "Now, why not have this one? Only two rupees — and it will sing like an angel."

"A male angel or a female angel?" said Ishaq severely.

The stall-keeper suddenly became obsequious.

"Oh, you must forgive me, you must forgive me. People here are so ignorant, one can hardly bear to part with one's most promising birds, but for one who knows parakeets I will do anything, anything. Have this one, Huzoor." And he picked out one with a larger head, a male.

Ishaq held it for a few seconds, then placed it back in the cage. The man shook his head, then said: "Now for a true fancier, what can I provide that is better than this? Is it a bird from Rudhia District that you want? Or from the foothills in Horshana? They talk better than mynas."

Ishaq simply said, "Let's see something worth seeing."

The man went to the back of the shop and opened a cage in which three little half-fledged birds sat huddled together. Ishaq looked at them silently, then asked to see one of them.

He smiled, thinking of the parakeets he had known. His aunt was very fond of them, and had one who was still alive at the age of seventeen. "This one," he said to the man. "And you know by now that I will not be fooled about the price either."

They haggled for a while. Until the money changed hands the stall-keeper seemed a bit resentful. Then, as Ishaq was about to leave — with his purchase nestled in his handkerchief — the stall-keeper said in an anxious voice, "Tell me how he is doing when you come by next time."

"What do they call you?" asked Ishaq.

"Muhammad Ismail, Huzoor. And how are you addressed?"

"Ishaq Khan."

"Then we are brothers!" beamed the stall-keeper. "You must always get your birds from my shop."

"Yes, yes," agreed Ishaq, and walked hurriedly away. This was a good bird he had got, and would delight the heart of young Tasneem.



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Robots, acorn-men, garden dens...**Jane Bidder** on the art of making playthings from scrap

Real play is a brain game

BRYN COLTON



Bedroom boffins: Thomas Belton and Adam Grey, of Norwich, with some of the inventive toys they have made with encouragement from the charity Play for Life

Take one plastic toolbox, the inner workings of a remote-control car, an old blender, several cardboard boxes plus wires (for effect) and, hey presto, you can make yourself a robot. At least, that's what 11-year-old Thomas Belton and his friend Adam have just done in their bedrooms at Norwich.

And that's not all: Thomas has also made a date-box car (using a date box with batteries inside and roller-skate wheels), a tree house (using bits of wood) and — when he was younger — a den (from a plastic clothes horse and blankets).

Such feats are known as "real play" in the Belton household. Thomas's mother, Teresa, is chair of the charity Play for Life, which was started by *her* mother (a former teacher) to encourage "resourceful and imaginative play".

Today, Play for Life, which has 200 parent members around the country, is celebrating its tenth anniversary in London with workshops to teach real play to parents and their children. There is also an exhibition of photographs and text to show how to build a den or garden obstacle course, or make a papier mâché squirrel/jewellery/pot. The exhibition will later tour Britain, and can be hired by playgroups or anyone else.

"We hope this will give parents general ideas on how to encourage traditional games and old-fashioned play," says Mrs Belton, who is raising funds to establish a permanent site in Norwich. "Elizabeth Stutz, one of our members, recently published a study of children's spare-time pursuits and discovered that, among 500 children aged seven to 14, the most popular occupation is playing electronic games based on horror, fighting, and crime," she says.

Although it may seem easier to plonk a child down in front of the television set rather than fish out the papier mâché, Mrs Belton says that real play does not have to be hard work. "Playing is often about spotting opportunities. When our washing machine packed up, we kept the aluminium drum, and the children [Ben, 13, Thomas and James, 5] had great fun pouring water into it and watching it spurt out in different directions. You don't have to have an end to a project — playing is simply doing: old carpet tiles can become stepping stones or hopscotch squares, and a wheelbarrow on its side a garden den."

Nothing is impossible, even film-making. At a recent workshop, children and parents were taught to make an animated film by drawing, scratching, spray-painting and sandpapering on the film surface. The charity tells how to get materials for making a sequel at home.

For parents who cannot get to the exhibition, Play for Life publishes a free leaflet, "Rescuing Real Play", to kick your imagination into starting gear. Ideas include drawing murals with washable chalk on paving and brick walls; going out after dark with an adult and a torch and writing a diary about it; improvising a musical band from household objects (rubber bands to pluck over chair or tissue boxes) and tape recording the result; and collecting odds and ends (material scraps, wrapping paper, shells, acorns and so on) as resources to spark off ideas.

In case you run out of ideas, Play for Life runs a small mail-order service, selling toys and materials which are otherwise hard to come by. Ranges include creature caps for dressing up (frog hats for £3.90 and dinosaur hats for £4.40); ethnic doll's house families (£11.80 for a family of four — doll's house not provided but you can always make your own); garden "rummy" card-game with pictures of organic vegetables and gardening tips (£3.90); and a melodious-sounding wooden drum (£59).

If this is beginning to sound too like *Blue Peter* to be true, you might be relieved to know that Thomas also owns a Sega system — his parents gave in under peer pressure, although they limit its use. However, Thomas also relishes old-fashioned play, such as building robots and the den. "I like making things; it would be boring just to sit and watch television all the time," he says.

Peter Burtenshaw, aged 12, of South Walsham, Norfolk, enjoys playing on the swing he has made from ropes and pulleys strung horizontally between two trees. "It was his design, although we tested it first," says his mother, Joyce Burtenshaw, who joined Play for Life after hearing about it through an antenatal group.

Mrs Burtenshaw, who has four children (aged seven weeks, three years, five and 12), insists real play is no more time-consuming than unpacking ready-made games. "We spend a lot of time looking at snail trails and getting our hands dirty. The children love 'pretend' cooking, with acorns, chestnuts, and making acorn-men. The preparation can take time but once the children start off, they begin to fly."

"It comes as a relief to know that real play can be simply sitting and doing nothing but day-dreaming. "It's good to play with children, but it is also possible to overdo it," Mrs Belton warns. "You need to allow children to do their own thing within reason and not always have an adult worrying around."

● *Play for Life Workshop Day at the American Church, 79 Tottenham Court Road, London W1 on March 20 costs £20 (for non members), child £10. Contact Jan Rhodes, 14 Glebe Road, Reading, RG2 7AG (0734 871281). The free exhibition will visit The London Ecology Centre, Shelton Street, London, WC2H 9JQ (071-379 4524), Manchester 27-April 3, and will then travel to Manchester, Norwich, Bristol and Bedford. Play for Life can be contacted at 31B Ipswich Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR2 2LN (0603 53348/505947).*

Children's events

LONDON

☐ **The Magic Island and It's Not All Grimm:** Liz Lochead's accessible introduction to the world of the bard is based on *The Tempest* (seven to 12-year-olds). Plus double bill adapted from Grimm's *Cinderella* and *Iron Hans* (three to eight-year-olds).
Unicorn, Great Newport Street, WC2 (071-836 3334). Magic Island: tomorrow, 2.30pm; It's Not All Grimm, today, 11am and 2.30pm; £3.50-£6.50.

☐ **Wildlife Exhibition:** A show of animal artwork in support of the Born Free Foundation. Also children's reproduction prints, posters and cards.
The Medici Gallery, 7 Grafton Street, W1 (071-629 5675). Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm; until April 16.

OUT OF TOWN

☐ **Ashford:** The people of Ashford and the 100-strong Ashford Choral Society give the final performance of *Dreamdragons*, a community opera about the coming of the Channel tunnel, designed by the Glyndebourne team.
Stour Leisure Centre, Tannery Lane (0233 625801), tonight, 7.30pm; £2-£4.

☐ **Bedfordshire — a lambing open day:** Modern working sheep farm offers a great opportunity to see lambs being born.
Watergate Farm, Hockliffe, nr Leighton Buzzard (on the A4012 between Hockliffe and Woburn) (0525 210708/211240). Apr 10, 12, 17, 18, 24, 25. Craft fairs on some days.

☐ **Belfast:** David Wood's musical play *Rupert and the Green Dragon.*
Grand Opera House, Great Victoria Street (0232 241919). Tues, 2pm, Wed-Sat, 10.30am and 2pm; £5-£6.50.

☐ **Coventry:** Molecule Theatre of Science explores the basic principals of electricity and magnetism in *Struck by Lightning* (seven to 11-year-olds).
Coventry Technical College Theatre, The Butts (0203 257221). Tues-Fri, 10.30am and 1.30pm;

☐ **Edinburgh:** *The Land of the Dinosaur*, skeletons from Beijing, displayed with support material and video questionnaires (aimed at upper-primary level).
City Art Centre, 2 Market Street (031-529 3541). Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, £2, £1.

☐ **Manchester:** Produced at the Unicorn three years ago, the ecological adventure story *The Flood* is restaged.
Contact Theatre, Oxford Road (061-274 4400). Tues-next Sat, 7.30pm, mat next Sat, 2pm; £4-£7.

☐ **Paignton:** The Russian All Stars' unusual staging of the Tchaikovsky ballet *The Sleeping Beauty* is on ice.
Festival Theatre, Esplanade Road (0803 558641). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm; £5.50-£18.50.

KARI KNIGHT

Hot and gossipy Turkish delight

Helen Pickles abandons clothes, inhibitions and tensions to indulge in an age-old pleasure

FOR something that is about doing, wearing and thinking nothing, Turkish bathing requires a disproportionate degree of knowledge and planning.

Pink bottoms, for example, are avoided by sitting on a towel. A moistened flannel held to the nose helps breathing in the steam room. "And if you wrap a damp towel around the shower head," confided one lady, pointing to the showers in the steam room, "it gets even hotter."



Heated discussion: in the hot room

The regulars come armed with massage oils, massage mitts, pumice stones, dry-wipes, deep-conditioning hair-wax, fruit, books and newspapers, and stash away a few extra towels (above the permitted four per person) in their cubicles.

In Newcastle, the rush hour starts at about five o'clock, when the first of the shop and office workers arrive. The daytime bathers, pensioners and young mothers, have left to collect their library books and children. In the evenings, gossip is hotter, the mood more abandoned.

Abandonment, however, is not a state natural to the British. Stripped of my clothes and confidence, I walk quickly into the hot room and sit down on the nearest spare slab. Ouch! It is hot. Affecting nonchalance, I suffer until nobody is looking then slip a towel underneath.

In fact, the hot room (140F) is not a room at all but a corridor. At one end, it narrows and leads into two rooms, hotter (160F) and hottest (180F). At the other end, behind a glass door, is the steam room (190F).

Built in 1927, the baths have a wonderful period elegance. Polished terrazzo covers the floors and lower walls and marble benches are set into alcoves. Beneath the lofty, arched ceiling, oval fretwork grilles decorate the higher walls. Dark green deck chairs are grouped in clusters, over, in and across which bodies loll in startling poses of decadence. I feel I have wandered on to a Ken Russell film-set.

Another room, divided by pillars, contains showers, a Jacuzzi and two raised slabs of marble looking like mortician's tables — these are the massage benches. As the whole complex is underground, the effect is of some Roman catacomb, where bodies, weakened by the heat, sprawl or wander around dragging their shrouds (towels) behind them.

The idea of a Turkish bath is to cleanse and tone the skin and revitalise the parts other baths cannot reach. According to Sir John Fife, senior surgeon at Newcastle Infirmary, in his foreword to David Urquhart's *Manual of the Turkish Bath* published in 1865, its efficacy knows no bounds: "internal congestion, diseases of the liver and kidney, the passage of gall-stones, spasmodic and permanent stricture of the urethra, enlargement of the prostate gland, rheumatism, cutaneous diseases, bronchial inflammation" all benefit from a process "which in a few minutes will secure a general diaphoresis, bringing the circulation to the extremities and equalising the arterial action".

Because acclimatisation is gradual and effected in dry rather than wet heat (apart from the steam room), the body can enjoy the cleansing process for much longer periods than in a sauna. Having built up a healthy sweat, you leap into a cold shower and start all over again. At some stage you submit to a massage. When it all becomes too much you retire to the rest room.

In Newcastle, this is an area of cool and clubby gloom, with wood panelling, ceiling fans, dark green upholstery and luxuriant vegetation. Alternatively, you can drift into the seclusion of a mahogany-walled cubicle, drop on to the white-sheeted bed and say goodbye to the world. This state of voluptuous bliss, however, has to be earned through a good hour or so of sweaty lounging around.

"Much of the fun is being able to sit and gossip," says 27-year-old Jo, her elegant body draped over a deck chair. Jo is training to be a vicar at Durham University. "It's more relaxed than sitting over a drink in a pub. It puts life into perspective. It's nice to spend an evening just chatting."

It is conducive to conversation. I realise, because of the absence of any of the music that seems to be the standard aural decoration in every public space these days. The only disturbances are made by a Chinese lady indulging in some private form of self-flagellation, and the swish-crackle as a couple of the larger ladies pass by, their bodies encased in orange plastic. This has nothing to do with modesty: "It makes us sweat more."

Looking at my own sweat-free body, I realise I am not working hard enough. I need to do some serious roasting. I plunge straight into the hottest room, an unwise leap of 40 degrees. The floor is like burning sand, and I am forced to dance around while I sort out my deck chair. Too exhausted to read, I am entertained by two middle-aged ladies discussing their abominable friend, Tricia.

The hottest gossip, naturally, is in the steam room. "If he's moved in with you, who's living in the house?" "She is, but he's paying the mortgage." "No! Is she still in love with him?" "Yes, but he told her..." A sudden whoosh of steam drowns out the rest of the mini-soap dialogue.

Leaning against the opposite wall, a turbanned lady is diligently attacking her foot with a pumice stone. Maysie Sharp, a 42-year-old community theatre worker, comes once a week. "I find it very helpful for my back injury. And it's a wonderful place to give your hair a hot-wax condition."

According to Urquhart's manual, the massage should also be given in the steam room, or "thermae". The attendant should "scrub the body with a glove of camel's hair" before soaping. The bather, wrapped in fresh towels, is then led back to the rest area, arrayed on a mattress, given bowls of coffee and a pipe, while the attendant removes his foot callouses.

Lilian does not offer to remove my callouses but she gives me a very nice massage. Many a famous body has passed under her hands — Annie Lennox, Connie Booth, Jenny Agutter. "Oooh, we get lots of actresses in here," she says airily. "What do you do?" she enquires prodding my shoulders. "Take an hour to get rid of these knots." I am about to remark that I do not mind if she presses harder, when she throws a towel over my bottom and begins to pummel with her fists.

I get up unsteadily wondering if my cellulite is as bad as that of the large German lady who, for the second time, has walked off with my towels. Janey Byrne, a slim 26-year-old who works in a day-care centre for the elderly, admits she was put off by the thought of such naked public scrutiny. Now she could not care a hoot and is busy converting her friends. "It's so relaxing. After a hectic day, I can't wait to get here. It feels just like a holiday in the middle of the week."

It is wickedly self-indulgent. Even better (or worse?), I find it impossible to feel guilty. It is as if, divested of one's clothes, one is stripped of responsibilities. Back on the wet pavements of Newcastle, while I might not wax as eloquently as Urquhart — "the body has come forth shining like alabaster, fragrant as the cistus, sleek as satin and soft as velvet" — there is a definite squeak to my skin and a spring to my step.

FIONA M. BAIN



Recovering nicely: a customer enjoys the normal temperature of the relaxation room at Newcastle City Baths

Where to find the hot spots

● **Turkish baths** have separate days for men and women, although some also offer sessions of mixed bathing. Swimming costumes can be worn. Last admission is usually 90 minutes before closing.

● **London:** Atherton Leisure Centre, *189* Romford Road, London E15 3JS (081-519 5731): Turkish bath £4.50, massage £18 per hour. Ladywell Leisure Centre, 261 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6NQ (081-690 2123): Turkish bath £5, massage £8.50 per half-hour. The Porchester Spa, 225 Queensway, Bayswater, London W2 5HS (071-792 3980): Turkish bath £15.40 (includes swimming pool), massage £17 per half-hour, £26 per hour.

● **Harrogate:** The Royal Baths Assembly Rooms, Crescent Road, Harrogate HG1 2RR (entrance on Parliament Street) (0423 500500): Turkish bath £6, massage £8 per half-hour.

● **Manchester:** Victoria Baths, Hathersage Road, Manchester 13 (061-224 4241): Turkish bath £4, massage £8 per half-hour, £14 per hour.

● **Newcastle upon Tyne:** Newcastle City Pool, Northumberland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 (091-232 1981): Turkish bath £5.50 (includes free swim), massage £2.75.

● **Nottingham:** Victoria Leisure Centre, Gedling Street, Sneinton, Nottingham NG11 1DB (0602 505694): Turkish bath £4.90, massage free.

This list is not comprehensive. Check with your local city council or tourist information office.

Battered, bruised, bolshie and in need of a holly day

Do not bother to ask how we are. Never in the brief history of this farm have so many of us been on the sick-list: nothing too serious, you understand, but several of us are sufficiently lame and cronky to have brought to a halt the vital cultivations that spring demands.

We still have acres of land to plough before the spuds can go in: there are meadows pleading for the chain-harrows to drag from them the dead tufty grass of last winter. But looking at me and the cart-horses, I must be realistic and admit that the next seven days are hardly likely to find any of us in harness again. Lest you should expend all your sympathy on the sick horses, I will trouble you with my symptoms first.

Last week, I ploughed long and hard with a plough I had not used before. Breaking in a new plough is as gruelling as mastering a new pair of stiff leather boots: nothing feels right for the first day, and every step needs some forethought if accidents are to be avoided. But I was not careful enough. By the end of a day in which I had fought the plough every inch of the way down the furrow, I had a dose of tennis-elbow which would do credit to an entire Wimbledon fortnight. I am left with a piercing ache which swells at the merest sight of a heavy bucket of pigswill. It is not sufficient to stop me working, just enough to cloud every day with a tetchy temper.



As for Star, the senior carthorse, I am not certain what happened to him, but at the same time as I was wrenching my elbow, he was bruising his neck. I noticed he was not walking as straight and true in the furrow as his 16 years have taught him and put it down to bloody-mindedness. But when it got to the point where he was contorting his body to such an extent that he was leaning 45 degrees from the vertical, I decided it was time for home. Removing his collar revealed a hump. The vet examined it, and we came to the conclusion that some equine skirmish had taken place in the yard (tempers do fray in late winter) and that old Star had been the loser. It was either a bite, or a kick, or a nudging into a gate post, but for Star it was the end of his working week until the swelling went down.

Which brings us to Prince, the baby in the stable. A couple of days ago I harnessed him to the chain-harrows and headed for the meadows. We had three glorious hours combing the sward, ripping out the dead grass so the young shoots could breathe and grow. The vivid scent of freshly-harrowed grass was intoxicating and on his return to the stable Prince would surely have licked his lips had they not been so sore. His tender young mouth, rested through the long winter months, had not taken kindly to a bit. I was advised that zinc and castor oil, as used on babies' bottoms, will have an equally soothing effect on Prince's mouth.



As soon as I can find a baby-buggy big enough for him to sit in, we shall be heading for Mothercare.

By chance, a leaflet arrived this week which may solve all our problems. It is offering cures for all ills by merely taking extracts from various wild flowers. The brochure boasts: "... simple and natural way of establishing complete equilibrium and harmony ... by means of wild flowers". If anywhere needs a little harmony and equilibrium at the moment, it is this farmer and his horses. There are 38 different remedies on offer, and I fear we might be in need of all of them.

Gorse, for example, is for curing pessimism and defeatism: we will take a gallon of that. Cherry plum, on the other hand, is for "uncontrolled, irrational thoughts": I think we may make a cocktail of that with a stiff measure of chestnut ("for refusing to learn by experience") and a hefty swig of vervain ("for having fanatical beliefs").

Do not think I am mocking Dr Bach's famous tried and tested remedies; I have a mind wide open to homoeopathy. It is just a question of deciding which cure to go for. Perhaps extract of holly will be the one. It is "for hatred, envy and suspicion". You see, Star hates the horse that bit him, envies the others for being free of pain, and suspects Blue, the No 2 carthorse, is to blame for it all. Prince, with the sore lips, hates me for making his mouth uncomfortable, envies the horses left in the stable while he has to work, and suspects me of deliberately making his life miserable.

I, on the other hand, hate them all for going sick at a time when the work is pressing, envy all other farmers who are getting on with the job, and am deeply suspicious that it is some plot nature has hatched against me. Yes, I think a stiff dose of holly: as if we weren't sufficiently prickly customers already.

A glint of hope in the woods

Frank Jeffery reports on the threat to Britain's beechwoods

People agonise and protest about the world's disappearing rainforests, victims of the greed for cheap hardwood, but no one has yet spoken out about the threat to the most spectacular hardwood forests in England, the beechwoods of Buckinghamshire. Except for Mike Render, that is.

Mr Render, the forestry officer for Buckinghamshire county council, says: "Unless we get large swathes of new planting, many areas of Chiltern woodland will disappear by the early years of the next century."

Most people know the Bucks beeches that cover much of the Chilterns, glorious in full summer, aglow with autumn colours from late September, but few know that the county was named after them: the Saxon word for beech was bok. The same word means book, probably because early books were painted on thin slices of beechwood. So, because the beech grew so profusely, the area became Bokinghamshire.

Although the beech is indigenous, the majestic woodlands you see — for example, at Burnham Beeches, just outside the Chilterns proper, or around Great Missenden — were planted by enterprising foresters: first to sell as firewood in London before coal came in, then for the growing furniture industry around High Wycombe. The Windsor chair is built of beech, with an elm seat, and much other traditional furniture is beech-framed.

In the past, the forestry and timber trade prospered; the beeches covered the hills and became part of what politicians call our heritage. Now, cheap hardwood imports, the use of other materials for furniture-making, and the recession are threatening the beeches.

Nature is not helping. Drought has weakened old trees on the thin, chalky soil and predators are increasing. Rabbits, voles and deer munch seed and gnaw at young trees, but grey squirrels are the main problem.

Squirrels live in the high branches of beeches, eat the green young trees and cut damaging rings in the bark of bigger ones (no one knows why: one theory is that there are too many males and they nibble the bark-girdles out of sexual frustration).

The big gales of recent years brought down many beeches, and forced owners to cut down many more — so there is a glut of beech timber at a time when less is being used and more cheap beech is coming in from Europe and North America.

A well-grown Bucks beech, 100 years old and getting on for 100ft high, will produce only three or four cubic feet of good timber. The grower gets about £120 a cubic foot, but has to pay for felling, transport and management costs out of a payment of less than £500. Rough timber cannot find buyers at all at present.

As a result, the owners of many of the smaller woods cannot afford to have trees felled. The beeches grow too old, start to decay, sometimes die. They are not replaced: there is no financial incentive.

The owner of one of the most spectacular high beech forests in Bucks, with about a quarter of a million trees, told me: "To grow hardwood timber you either have to be rich or a fool." He thought he might be a bit of each and asked to remain anonymous.

Big operators, such as the one I spoke to, can afford to keep going and manage their woods properly. But in the last 50 years, many of the big estates have been broken up, sold off in smaller parcels, mainly to pay for death duties. The smaller woods decay, though in total acreage they probably equal the bigger forests.

However, there are rays of hope glinting through the beech trees. The Countryside Commission is running a Small Woods Project to encourage the owners of smaller woods to manage them properly, and the government, which has neglected forestry if you compare what is done here with the work in Germany, Belgium and France, is at last giving grants for planting new woods and replanting old ones.

The Forestry Authority (part of the Forestry Commission), which is encouraging planting, has published a handbook, *Growing Broad-leaves for Timber*, which could become the standard work.

Brian Hibberd, the authority's deputy chief conservator, says foresters should see this as a time of opportunity. "As the amount of timber coming from the rainforests decreases," he told me, "so market forces will make native hardwoods more competitive. Probably within two or three decades, which is a very short time in timber terms."

But the Buckinghamshire beeches are under threat now. Many of them are much the same age — 100 to 120 years old — and are reaching the point when they will start to fall if they are not taken down. Many could go at the same time.

As Mr Render says, unless they are replaced soon, the beautiful face of the Chilterns is going to change.

FORESTRY COMMISSION



Woodland in danger: unless there are new plantings, old forested areas such as Burnham Beeches could well disappear early in the new century

Britain's broad-leaves

THE total area of productive woodland in England, Wales and Scotland, according to Forestry Commission figures for 1992, is 2,153 hectares. Of this 1,521 hectares are covered by coniferous high forests, while only 592 hectares (including Burnham Beeches) are devoted to broad-leaved trees. The main species of broad-leaves are oak, beech, ash, sycamore and birch. Broad-leaves account for 36 per cent of woodland in Great Britain: 73 per cent of the total is found in England, 18 per cent in Scotland and 9 per cent in Wales. Ninety per cent of broad-leaf forests are privately owned.

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Feather report

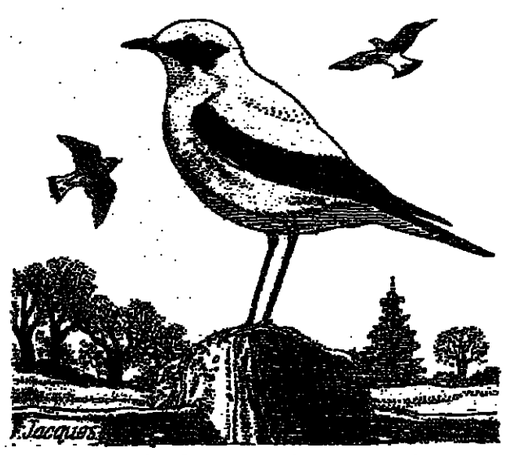
Migrants return in full voice

The treetops are ringing out: innumerable chiffchaffs are back up there after wintering on the Mediterranean, and are singing steadily — the emphatic "clink, clink", constantly repeated, that gives them their name.

This year they were very punctual. A few were reported singing towards the end of the second week of this month. These might have been some of the small number of chiffchaffs that stay here for the winter, although those probably all go back to the Continent to set up their summer territories. The great influx came, as it so often does, around March 20. In some parts of southern England last Saturday, you could hear one practically every hundred yards. The first spring migrants had returned.

At the moment they are still quite easy to see, with the leaves only just breaking on the trees. They are small, olive-green birds, lighter beneath, and they feed as they sing, darting from twig to twig, fluttering and hovering, in pursuit of newly emerged insects.

These singing birds are all males. The females will follow in a week or two, and every pair will make a rough, domed nest in the brambles a foot or two above the ground.



Out of Africa: the wheatear spends summer on the moors

To see the other early summer visitor, you need to be somewhere quite different. It could be on a stretch of the downs, with well-cropped grass where sheep still graze, or by a football field in a town park on a silent weekday morning. A white movement: it is not a piece of paper being blown jerkily about, it is a bird on the ground; a dainty, pearl-grey bird, with a black mark through the eye and black wings, and buff underparts shading into creamy white beneath the black tail.

The bird pounces on an insect, makes a swift movement forward for another, and then takes wing. As it flies it shows a flash of white at the base of the tail, from which it gets its name — wheatear, which means "white rump".

These wheatears have flown here from tropical Africa and are on their way to lonely moors and hillsides, where they will nest among stones, or in cracks in the dry-stone walls. For a few weeks they feed in the fields and open spaces of the south, making their sharp, stony calls.

By this weekend, sand martins and yellow wagtails should be arriving in considerable numbers, also from south of the Sahara. They are small birds, brown above and white beneath, with a brown collar and a forked tail, and they seem to buzz over the water, nimbly pursuing flies.

Yellow wagtails head straight for the low-lying fields alongside rivers and canals where they will nest in the grass. By early summer, you will find them spaced out along the banks as regular as fishermen, the males all perched on fence-posts or early thistles, their long tails bobbing up and down, and their throats and breasts a brighter yellow than the cowslips.

DERWENT MAY

● What's about: *Birders — Listen out for the first singing blackcaps. Twitchers — White-billed diver in winter plumage at Filey Bay, North Yorks. Details from Birdline, 0898 700222. Calls cost 36p per minute cheap rate, 48p per minute at all other times.*

A rising star of London's culinary scene gives **Robin Young** a demonstration that starts to resemble a Chinese acrobatic routine

Too many pots spoil the cook

Bruno Loubet is a chef being groomed for stardom. And he is now under professional management, which is just as well, since his career moves have been risky of late.

A former colleague of Raymond Blanc, our hero entered the Prix Taittinger international chefs' competition last year as firm British favourite for a high placing, yet failed to qualify as a finalist.

The next blot on his chef's order book could have proved even more embarrassing. Early this year he went moonlighting in Soho to open Bistrot Bruno. The move won acclaim from everyone except the Inn on the Park hotel, where M Loubet was supposed to be tied to the stoves of the gastronomic restaurant, the Four Seasons. M Loubet had not mentioned his plans to them.

The hotel's general manager, Ramon Pajares, was fit to have the chef tied and roasted, while M Loubet protested that he was only using his own spare time in Soho.

Mr Pajares must have been mollified when he found his own praises sung in print, hailing his good sense in allowing his young chef off the *haute cuisine* leash.

Mr Pajares and M Loubet have reached an understanding, so while it is M Loubet who puts the pizzazz in the Bistrot menus, Desmond Yare does the cooking.

Now M Loubet, whose pot is coming to the boil, has his cookbook, *Cuisine Courante*, taking its place in the Macmillan Masterchefs series on April 8, simultaneously with *Cuisine Actuelle*, featuring the recipes of Joël Robuchon, the most highly regarded three-star chef in France.

To promote his book M Loubet recently gave a demonstration at Le Cordon Bleu, where people paid £20 to watch him cook.

Instead of M Loubet being tied and stuffed, that fate befell a warren-full of boned rabbits, who had their innards replaced with sun-dried tomatoes rolled in tarragon. Simultaneously, M Loubet boiled onions in red wine and honey, roasted the rabbit bones with a vegetable *mirepoix*, and stirred industriously at a risotto.

Then he started stirring up orange juice and cream and, in yet another bowl, whipping egg yolks and sugar. He now had seven pans on the go, and it was beginning to resemble the Chinese acrobats' tricks with spinning plates.

Not altogether surprisingly, when it came to pouring the heated orange juice over the whipped egg yolks while taking time off from zesting a couple of limes, he forgot to add flour first.

"This is the trouble with doing everything at the same time," M Loubet said, looking bashful and dumping the flour into the bowl with a vengeful whipping.

"I have a little problem here," he announced moments later. "The person who has measured the ingredients has put too much flour for the amount of cream. I am going to have to add some milk, otherwise it is too thick." More vigorous pounding.

"The art of cooking, you know," said the chef, pausing for breath, "is not following recipes. It is knowing what to do when things go wrong." More stirring, pounding and whipping. "If you have any questions, do not worry. I am pleased to answer them while I am working too."

M Loubet was now setting about a pan full of gently simmering scallops. "Let them colour well and caramelise nicely," he said. "Because they are fresh they can cook very gently. If you used frozen ones, you would have to seal them very fast or they become very dry."

He had now used some two dozen cooking bowls and pans for his three-course meal, but the highlight of the demonstration came when M Loubet caramelised the brown sugar topping to his raspsberry *gratin* — he took a blowtorch to the job. In my kitchen that would mean using a tool last used for burning off paint.

As he torched his puddings mercilessly, he explained: "The dish will cook too fast for the sugar to caramelise unless we help it. Now perhaps you would like to taste the starter and main course," he suggested, while he continued the dessert's cremation.

We all agreed that we would, but four of the audience jumped up first with cameras to photograph the results. "It helps me fix the recipes in my mind," said one.

After polite nibbles at the dishes ("delicious, delicious, quite lovely") everyone trooped out to buy signed copies of the book (£12.99). Has M Loubet the makings of a star? I should think so.

WHIP IT UP

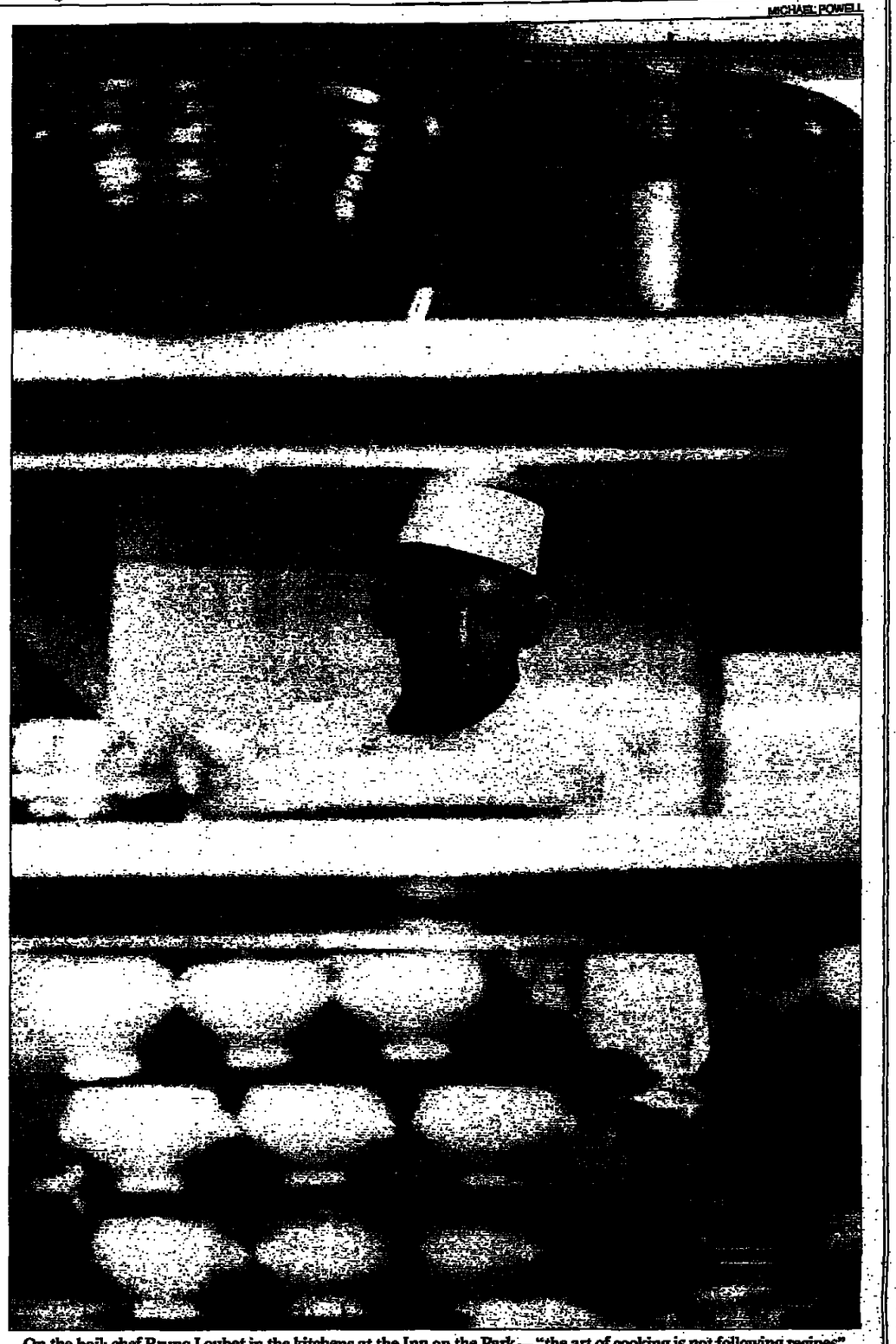
Gratin de framboise au citron vert

(makes 8 gratins)
6 egg yolks
150g/5oz sugar
75g/2½oz flour
200g/7oz orange juice
125g/4oz cream
1 gelatine leaf
6 egg whites
600g/1lb5oz raspberries
2 limes
brown sugar

IN A bowl, whip the egg yolk with 50g sugar until creamy white and then add the flour. Heat the orange juice with the cream, then pour over the mix, put back in the pan and cook whilst stirring with a wooden spatula from time to time like a *crème pâtissière*. Remove from the heat, leave to cool down a bit then add the gelatine and the juice of one lime. Cook the rest of the sugar with a bit of water, whip the whites until just stiff then add sugar bit by bit until the meringue has cooled down.

Add the zest of two limes to the cream, then fold the white inside a gratin dish, pipe a bit of mix, then add orange juice, then raspberries and pipe the rest over. Cover with brown sugar, glaze the gratin in a medium oven for five minutes. Serve with raspberry sorbet or raspberry coulis.

MICHAEL POWELL



On the boil: chef Bruno Loubet in the kitchens at the Inn on the Park — "the art of cooking is not following recipes"

RESTAURANT WATCH

WHEELER'S RETREAD
Walsh's
5 Charlotte Street, W1
(071-637 0222)
Elaine Emmanuel, after apprenticeship with Bocuse, has repaved Rue St Jacques. *Robin Young writes.* On Tuesday it reopens as a fish restaurant, named in memory of her grandfather, Bernard Walsh (died 1981), founder of Wheeler's (sold 1984). Oyster bar. Reckon £30-35 à la carte. The chef is Chris German, from Odin's.

RINGING CHANGES
The Bell Inn
Aston Clinton, Bucks
(0296 630252)
The new chef at the Bell is Jean-Claude Macfarlane, who was six years with Peter Kromberg at the Inter-Continental and executive sous-chef opening the Langham Hilton. He replaces David *Cavalier, now joining* Garry Hollihead at L'Escargot (brasserie reopens April 14, restaurant April 20). At the Bell: daily menus Monday to Friday £18.50 lunch, £22.50 dinner. Saturdays £35 two courses à la carte, £36 four course menu. Sunday £25 lunch and dinner.

GETTING BIGGER
Heathcote's
104-106 Higher Road, Longridge, Lancs
((0772 784969/785713)
Paul Heathcote says his cooking has outgrown his existing kitchen. So he is building a new one, with extra covers looking in on chefs at work. Open Tuesday to Sunday, 7-9.30pm. Lunches (£20 menu) Friday and Sunday only, noon-2pm.

CAST LIST
The Ivy
1 West Street, WC2
(071-836 4751)
Change of chef here is perhaps about as important to its continuing popularity as cast changes at *The Mousetrap* next door, but Desmond McDonald has come from the same source as Mark Hix, now executive chef for both Caprice and Ivy. Tony Carey is now head chef at Caprice. McDonald's new menu was introduced this week. Weekend lunch menus £12.50.

Alchemist among cheesemakers

Making a good cheese great is a rare skill, but a self-taught British *affineur* has cracked it

If I were a cheesemaker, I would be sick as a parrot about James Aldridge. Here he is, an ex-garage mechanic, ex-scaffolder, did not look at a cheese until 12 years ago, creating sheer masterpieces at the first try.

Mr Aldridge is what is known in the French cheese business as an *affineur*. Basically, he takes other people's cheeses and matures them by performing a wonderful alchemy.

Take Tornegus, a cheese Mr Aldridge created from a raw milk farmhouse Caerphilly. The original, as it emerges from Chris Duckett's Somerset farm, is characteristically delicate and crumbly. In the hands of Mr Aldridge, it becomes unctuously rich and creamy, intense and complex. If you tasted it blind you'd swear it was French.

The transformation is achieved by rind-washing the young cheese — the bacterium *R. Lincus* is introduced and then redistributed over the surface by smearing it lightly by hand with English wine. The enzymes produced by the bacteria give the cheese its characteristic orange colour, soft texture and full, pungent flavour. On average, it is washed every two or three days over a period of two months — the more frequent the washing, the stronger the flavour. The cheese is finished off with a brushing of herbs.

Completely self-taught, Mr Aldridge came into cheese by chance when he crushed a disc in a scaffolding accident and was looking for something else to do. His partner, Pat Robinson, was running a cheese shop at the time, and they decided to set up in business. He read every scientific paper he could find and travelled the country visiting cheesemakers. He was one of the first to rediscover traditional farmhouse cheeses, and when they became so popular he could no longer pick them up ready matured, he began to mature them himself.

Although he supplies standard farmhouse cheeses like Cheddar and Caerphilly, his reputation is built on the washed-rind cheese such as Tornegus. Other Aldridge creations are Brother David, a Lancashire cheese washed in cider; Celtic Promise (also cider-washed); Jacobstowe, a milder, brine-washed cheese; and Crusoe, a small domed cheese moulded from young Tornegus, mashed together with tarragon.

Mr Aldridge is quite *uncompromising* about the quality of what he sells. "I only sell what I think is fantastic. I didn't sell any Cheddar for a year because I couldn't find one I was happy with."

Six months ago, he started making cheese himself. He picks up the milk, still warm from the cow, on a Friday evening from a local cheesemaker's farm and works on it until the early hours of Saturday morning. "A good cheese needs to be handled by the same person all down the line. A different hand will produce a different cheese," he says.

When working on a new cheese he notes everything meticulously, the temperature, acidity, the size of particles, the number of holes in the mould. "That's why I can often get there in three tries, while it might take someone else years."

Although Mr Aldridge admits he is as critical of his fellow cheesemakers as he is of himself, he is also wholeheartedly generous with his skills and time. If people show an interest in a cheese he has made, he invites them over to stay and shows them how to do it step by step. If they ask for his help, he will give it.

The following recipe comes from Steven Blake of the Royal Crescent Hotel, Bath, who regularly has Mr Aldridge's cheese on his cheeseboard.

Millefeuille of Celtic Promise

(serves 4)
half a Celtic Promise cheese
¼ lb puff pastry
8 large black grapes

Roll the puff pastry wafer thin, rest for half an hour then bake until crisp. Cut the pastry into 12 2in squares. Remove rind from the cheese, then cut into 8 2in squares about ⅛in thick. Slice and de-seed the grapes. Assemble four individual millefeuilles: a layer of puff pastry, then cheese, then sliced grapes. Repeat the layers and finish with a layer of pastry.

Place the millefeuilles in a medium oven and warm until the cheese begins to melt. Serve warm on individual plates with a little salad to garnish.

FIONA BECKETT

● *For stockists of Mr Aldridge's cheeses, contact the Specialist Cheesemakers' Association, PO Box 256A, Thames Ditton, Surrey.*

JULIAN HERBERT



Working magic: James Aldridge with rind-washed cheeses

ASK NOT HOW MUCH MARMALADE CAN YOU GET FROM THESE ORANGES, ASK HOW MANY ORANGES CAN YOU GET INTO THIS JAR



The Essex Weekly News, February 13th 1925:

"For ordinary marmalade the object is to produce the largest amount of marmalade from a given quantity of oranges, but at Tiptree this process is reversed and the object there is to see how many oranges can be concentrated in one pot of marmalade. By the latest process employed it is found possible to concentrate the flavour of double the usual number of oranges into the same weight of marmalade"

We've had the same attitude for over 100 years, and not just to our marmalade. The headline might as easily read: "Ask not how much jam can you get from these strawbernes (plums, damsons etc) Ask how many strawberries (plums, damsons etc) can you get into this jar

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Is the caffeine kick really safe?

Coffee break debate

EACH year in the United Kingdom we drink 2.4 billion cups of coffee. Many people rely on its quick-fix caffeine jolt to get going in the morning; best-selling writers swear the muse eludes them without a freshly brewed hit; actors have made fortunes extolling the virtues of coffee in television commercials, one series of which has been transformed into a romantic novella.

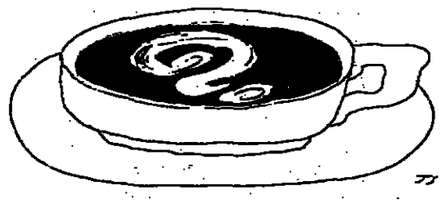
Coffee has been a feature of British life since the 17th century, but in the past 20 years our coffee-quaffing has increased from one cup of coffee to every six of tea to a 1:2 ratio. And the question is being asked: are we brewing up trouble for our health?

Chemically, coffee is a member of the family known as methylxanthines, found in more than 60 varieties of plant; its relations include cacao beans, kola nuts and tea. Drinking the liquor from roasted, crushed, steeped beans increases the production of epinephrine, a natural stimulant. The heart rate is boosted and, in some drinkers, so is blood pressure.

Coffee triggers the secretion of acids in the stomach, and acts as a diuretic — which can result in a slight loss of calcium, as it is flushed from the system. It also constricts blood vessels. Although some migraine sufferers insist that it triggers blinding headaches, others find that a swift demitasse can relieve symptoms.

However, the short-term energy-boost and apparent spur to concentration provided by coffee can have their downside. Symptoms that have been traced to coffee consumption include jitteriness, irritability, heartburn, diarrhoea, and a worsening of pre-menstrual stress. These usually occur only after a large intake, but some individuals find any caffeine at all can spark a reaction. For this reason, many GPs and almost all alternative health practitioners recommend keeping caffeine intake to a minimum.

But are there grounds for concern about long-term health? In the past few years, coffee and caffeine have been linked with serious medical conditions, from high cholesterol to infertility. But so far, conflicting results have failed to establish conclusive evidence. For instance, in the 1980s, a connection was suggested between caffeine and fibrocystic breast disease, a benign condition that causes painful lumpiness in the breast. But later studies — from the USA National Cancer Institute, monitoring more than 3,000 women — discounted that risk.



An analysis in the American Medical Association's *Archives of Internal Medicine* of 11 published studies found no correlation between the development of heart disease and coffee consumption. In the 1980s, it was suggested that women having trouble conceiving should avoid more than two cups of coffee a day. Then a 1990 study of more than 4,000 women, overseen by the Centres for Disease Control, indicated that coffee does not have an adverse effect on fertility, after all. It seems that the jury is still out.

Coffee selection is highly subjective. The gourmet's bean, arabica, is grown in Hawaii, Java, Kenya and Colombia and is often the most expensive of beans. The more potent robusta bean tends to be the cheapest.

Decaffeinated coffee "is seeing a massive sales boom", says Giles Hilton of Whittards, the tea and coffee specialists. There are three commonly used methods for taking the punch out of coffee. Peter Cox, a nutrition expert and co-author, with Peggy Brusseau, of *Superliving*, says: "One method uses methylene chloride, which is capable of causing cancer, so the two other methods are probably safer choices. One involves using the solvent ethyl acetate, which is found naturally in coffee beans and fruits such as bananas and pineapples, and dissolves caffeine in a similar manner to methylene chloride. The other method is called the 'Swiss water process', and simply uses pure water and carbon filters."

Nevertheless, a cup of decaff still yields about 3mg of caffeine, compared with 80mg for a cup brewed from arabica beans. Mass-market robusta beans (which tend to be the main component in everyday blended ground coffee) are stronger, notching up between 100-150mg of caffeine per cup. By contrast, the caffeine content of a cup of tea is about 20-50mg. Perhaps of wider concern is how coffee is brewed. An environmental issue concerns the filters used in drip-brewing coffee. The usual filters are of chlorine-bleached paper. When this is combined with naturally occurring lignin molecules in wood, this may result in the formation of dioxins, which the Environmental Protection Agency regards as a carcinogen. In turn, this anxiety has led to a rise in the sale of unbleached or "natural" filters, and the innovation of a costly, long-life version fashioned from steel mesh overlaid with gold. The trouble is, some consumers who have made the switch to environmentally friendly filters complain of impaired taste. The best advice is to take the plunge and invest in a *cafetière*.

Meanwhile, The Café Society has launched an educational programme among restaurateurs to improve the sale of top-quality coffee and end that familiar aroma of coffee left too long on the burner. "Eighteen minutes is the limit," says Tony Russell, the society's chairman.

Despite the debate on coffee's effect on health, and now that sex, smoking and sunbathing all come with the equivalent of government health warnings, is it any wonder that a steaming mug of coffee is still regarded as one of life's last safe indulgences?

JOSEPHINE FAIRLEY

Soup and fish for Lent

Frances Bissell plans a light starter, roasted skate and wicked puddings



A SOUP or a salad for starters, a fish main course and a creamy pudding make a good blueprint for a meal for friends or family. The preparation is not difficult as some can be done in advance, and the meal does not take long to cook. If you prefer a salad to soup, I would choose young spinach leaves, diced Roquefort cheese and chopped walnuts with a dressing of walnut oil and fresh orange juice.

The method given below makes a light, delicate, flavoursome soup, which you can change by varying the proportion and type of ingredients: I sometimes leave out the carrot and make a creamy onion and fennel soup, with an apple adding a sharp and sweet note. Or use potato instead of the carrots, or celery instead of the fennel.

If you want more soup ideas, Lindsey Bareham's book *A Celebration of Soup* (Michael Joseph, £16.99) is a good investment. This is a book about real food, not fashion food: the chapter on stock is masterly.

On the subject of fashionable food, skate seems to have moved into that category, with an attendant price rise. Nevertheless, it will continue to remain a favourite fish. I like it cooked in the classic way, poached and then served with a vinegary *beurre noisette* and capers. Skate is also good in salads — strands of the still warm flesh dressed with extra virgin olive oil and lemon juice, served on salad leaves or more robust pulses.

Lately, I have been roasting skate in the oven, which is an easy method of cooking pieces cut from large, thick skate wings as well as for the smaller wings.

With most fish, I serve herb-flavoured potatoes and garlic mashed with olive oil. Or, if you can get garlic chives, crush some to a paste with a little salt, and stir these into mashed potatoes without the garlic. Ordinary chives can be used in the same way, and if you have no fresh herbs to hand, stir in a little pesto.

There are big flavours here, so with such dishes I would drink a California chardonnay from the Sonoma Valley.

Carrot, fennel and apple soup

(serves 4-6)

1 medium onion, peeled
1lb/455g carrots, peeled
1 medium size fennel bulb, trimmed
1 medium Bramley apple, peeled and cored
2pt/1.15l vegetable or light chicken stock
2 bay leaves
seasoning

Dice or chop the vegetables and apples into roughly even-size pieces. Put them in a saucepan with ¼pt/140ml or so of stock and the bay leaves. Cover with a lid and cook gently until the vegetables are tender. Remove the bay leaves. Sieve or blend the vegetables with a little more stock until smooth and return the mixture to the saucepan. Stir in the rest of the stock. Bring to the boil, simmer for five minutes, season and serve.

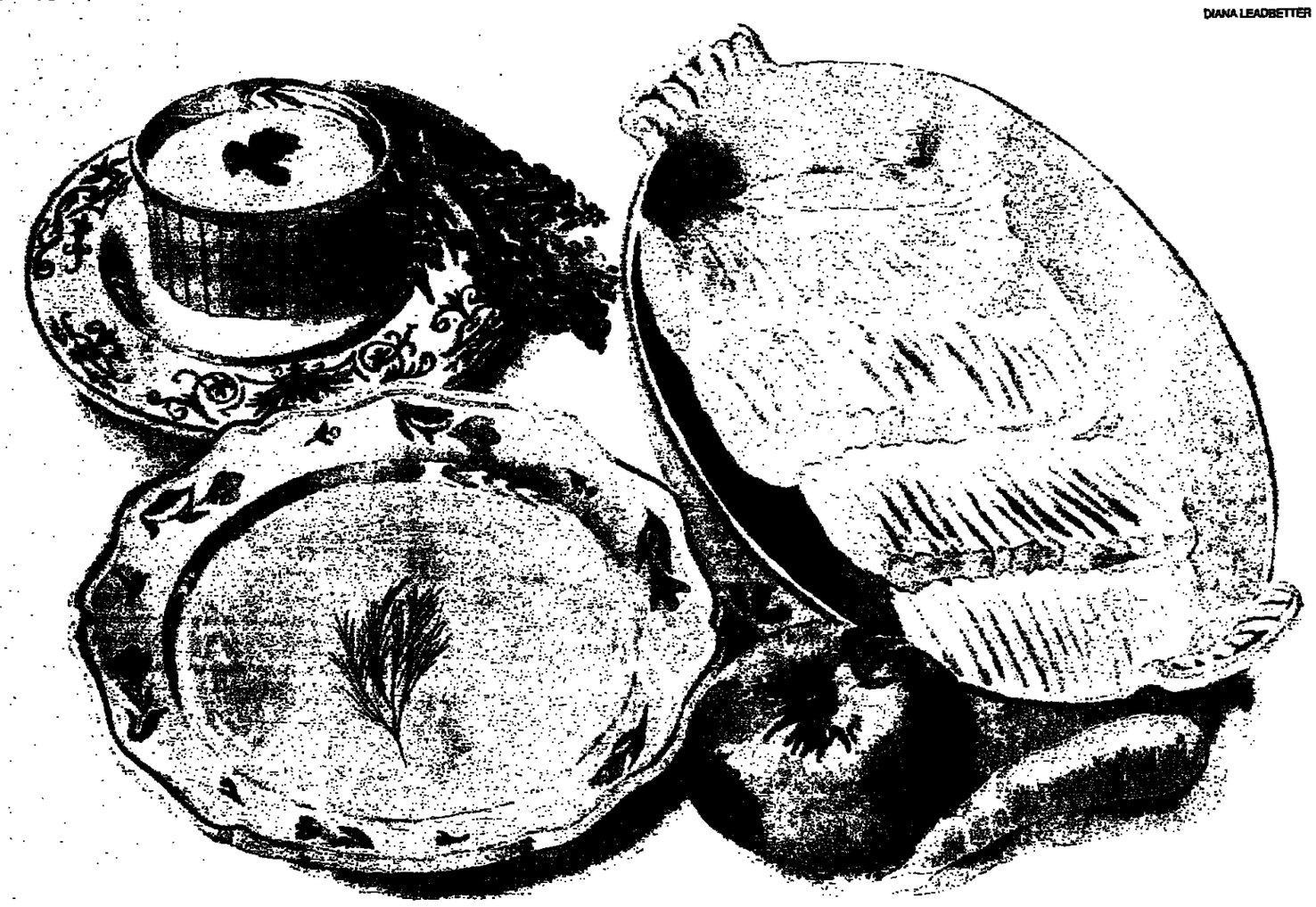
A large, shallow earthenware dish is probably the best thing to cook the fish in, and then you can bring it straight to the table.

Roasted skate

(serves 4-6)

2lb/900g skate wing, cut into 4 equal pieces
extra virgin olive oil
1 lemon
sea salt
freshly ground black pepper

Brush an ovenproof dish with olive oil. Remove the lemon zest in a thin layer, and place in the bottom of the dish. Brush the fish with olive oil and season lightly about half an hour or so before cooking. Heat the oven to 180C/350F, gas mark 4. Sprinkle the fish with a little lemon juice and put in the oven for 20-30 minutes, depending on the thickness of the fish. Remove from the oven, and strain the cooking juices into a saucepan. Add a little more olive oil and lemon juice to taste, heat, stir and serve over the fish, or hand out separately.



DIANA LEADBETTER

Ricotta al caffe

(serves 4-6)

½lb/230g ricotta
2oz/60g mascarpone or cream cheese
3-4oz/85-110g caster sugar
2-3tsp espresso ground coffee

This could not be simpler to make. Put all the ingredients in the food processor and blend until smooth. Refrigerate until required and serve in neat scoops on a plate, or serve in small ramekins. Another variation is to dip amaretti biscuits in black coffee, rum or Amaretto liqueur; put one in the bottom of each ramekin, and smooth the flavoured ricotta on top. A crystallised violet is quite a nice decoration for this, or a coffee bean or two, especially the chocolate-coated ones.

THE next recipe is more elaborate, but the result is well worth the effort. It looks good and tastes even better. The combination of passion fruit and white chocolate is one of the best.

White chocolate mousse with passion fruit syrup and almond crisps

(serves 4-6)

Mousse

3½oz/100g white chocolate
¼pt/140ml double cream
2 free-range eggs, separated
2tbsp Greek yoghurt or crème fraiche

Break up the chocolate and put it in a bowl over hot water. Stir in a tablespoon of the cream. When the chocolate has melted, remove from the heat and allow to cool slightly. Beat in the egg yolks and then the yoghurt or crème fraiche until combined with the chocolate. Whisk the egg whites until stiff and whip the remaining cream. Fold first the cream and then the egg whites into the chocolate mixture. Cover and chill overnight.

Syrup

juice and seeds of 3 passion fruit
2-3tbsp unrefined caster sugar
¼pt/140ml apple juice

Stir the sugar into the apple juice, set over a low heat, and then stir in the passion fruit juice and seeds. Cool and refrigerate.

Crisps

3oz/85g ground almonds
3oz/85g unrefined caster sugar
1tsp cornflour
2 free-range egg whites

Mix the ingredients to a soft paste. Make a template by drawing a circle about 4in/10cm in diameter on a piece of fairly thin but firm card, and another circle around it, leaving a 1½in/4cm border. Cut out the inner circle, and cut around the outer circle, but leave a "handle" so that it looks like a table tennis bat with a hole in the centre.

Prepare a baking tray with baking parchment, or use a non-stick baking mat. Take a small amount of paste on the underside tip of a palette knife and, placing the template on the baking sheet, spread a thin layer of almond paste to completely fill the centre shape. Carefully lift off the template so that you have a perfectly neat circle. Continue until you have filled the baking sheet; there will be a 1½in/4cm space between each biscuit.

Bake in the top half of a pre-heated oven for 8-10 minutes at 180C/350F, gas mark 4, or until uniformly golden brown. Allow to cool slightly and carefully slide off the baking sheet. Cool completely on a wire rack.

To assemble the dessert, use two tablespoons dipped in water to mould oval "eggs" or "quenelles" of mousse by scooping up a spoonful, placing the bowl of the second spoon over the top, and then shaping and transferring the firm mixture to the second spoon. Repeat the operation if necessary to obtain a smooth shape. Place two on each plate, spoon some syrup around and over the mousse. Dust the crisps with icing sugar, and serve these with the mousse, either separately or placed in the mousse at an angle.

IT IS worth making an extra quantity of the white chocolate mousse so that you can serve some as part of a trio of white desserts and the rest with the crisp wafer and the passion fruit sauce. Serve some of the coffee-flavoured ricotta for the second part of the trio.

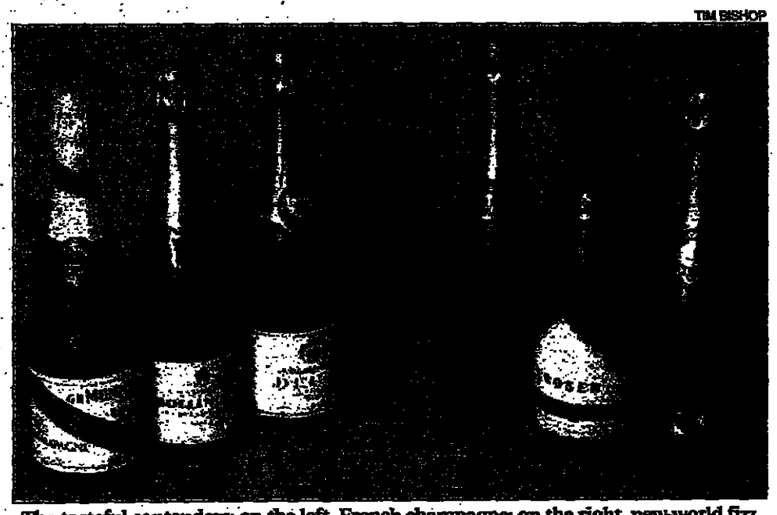
For the third dessert, I would serve a scoop of pear sorbet, or a spoonful of chilled, creamy rice pudding. An easy-to-make decoration for the rice pudding is to boil up a small amount of sugar to light caramel stage and trickle it into several free-form shapes on to a greased marble slab or work top. When set, remove them and place on top of the rice pudding.

Pear sorbets are easy to make and do not require a sorbetière or ice-cream maker, just a freezer compartment and a food processor. Use very ripe pears, or poach hard ones, having peeled and cored them. Cut into chunks of about 1in/2.5cm, and freeze. Remove from the freezer and let them stand for ten minutes before putting them in the food processor. Process with a little water or syrup until smooth, and then put back in the freezer, if necessary, to firm up enough for scooping.

Battle of the bubblies

New-world fizz is giving the Champenois a sales headache. **Jane MacQuitty** reports

TIM BISHOP



The tasteful contenders: on the left, French champagne; on the right, new-world fizz

Which would you prefer: a well-made *méthode champenoise* bottle of creamy, full-flavoured new-world fizz for about £10, or a green, lean and often unpalatable bottle of French champagne at more than twice the price?

Champagne's poor showing over the past five years, coupled with the effects of recession, mean many drinkers of sparkling wine have chosen the new-world version. Champagne sales are down almost everywhere in the world where carefully crafted sparkling wine alternatives are on offer.

The Champenois will argue, of course, that it is principally the recession, not a drop in quality, that has caused these dwindling sales. But I suspect the reason is that the producers of leading new-world sparklers, by listening to and taking the resources from the old world, have got closer than ever before to the taste of the real thing.

Originally, the idea behind the Champenois' joint-venture sparkling wine schemes with new-world producers was to supply overseas markets such as California and Australia with fizz when their own champagnes ran out. In the 1980s, with buoyant worldwide champagne sales, subsequent rationing, and a region whose plantings were close to capacity, overseas expansion seemed the only solution.

Moët & Chandon was the earliest, in 1973, with its impressive Domaine Chandon restaurant and winery outpost in California's Napa Valley. This was followed in 1980 by Piper Sonoma and in 1986 by Mumm's Cuvée Napa, a light, frothy, grapey and often inconsistent California fizz, but even so considerably better and cheaper than Mumm's Cordon Rouge original champagne (Sainsbury, Safeway and *Oddbins* stock *Cuvée Napa at £8.69*). Since then, Deutz, Taittinger and *Domaine Carneros* have all come to California, and an Iron Horse venture with Laurent Perrier is heading that way. Australia's couplings, including Bollinger with Croser, Roederer with Heemskeerk in Tasmania, and Moët's Green Point Vineyard Brut outlet in the Yarra Valley. New Zealand has the excellent Deutz Marlborough Cuvée, a joint effort between Montana and Deutz.

The best new-world fizz to date lacks the steely elegance of the best champagne cuvées, such as Dom Perignon and Roederer's Cristal, but it is usually as good as most Champenois non-vintage brut.

I had always supposed that champagne would remain the Rolls-Royce of sparkling wines. Others disagree. Claire Gordon Brown, once Sainsbury's champagne buyer and now number two in the wine team there, says: "There is no reason why they shouldn't produce top cuvées to match the best Champagne can do. But they will have to work hard to do it."

Tony Jordan, of Australia's Green Point, says confidently: "We are beginning to produce a style that is of world class, even though the fruit expression is Oz."

How the new-world producers got so close to the old world original is not hard to ascertain. The new world's advanced technology, coupled with the old world's traditional influence and the joint venture schemes, has been Champagne's downfall.

The best new-world sparklers are those made via the *méthode champenoise* from the same grapes that are grown in the Champagne region — pinot noir, chardonnay and, to a lesser extent, pinot meunier. There may be a better combination of sparkling wine varieties out there but, if so, the wine world has yet to discover them.

Those that use only the first, free-run pressing from these grapes, preferably in a modern, ultra-gentle press such as the French Coquard press (used by Deutz NZ among others), also stand a better chance of making a more champagne-like fizz.

Lengthy ageing on yeast in cool cellars gives rise to the bubbles in your glass and, once the yeast cells have completely broken down, to those rich, creamy, complex nutty yeast autolysis flavours. Even the new-world fruit, which matures faster than that of the old world, takes at least two, almost three years' contact with yeast to develop these highly prized characteristics.

Choice of yeast strain is important, as are the contents of the final dosage, be it reserve wines or the use, as Croser does, of a special liqueur brandy spirit.

The end result is so impressive (see panel) that, despite these sparklers' as yet distinctly new-world character, the Champenois must be worried. And with the next new-world kick-on in quality, their anxiety is likely to grow.

● **Deutz Marlborough Cuvée Brut, New Zealand,** *Thresher Group and Oddbins £9.99, Victoria Wine £10.19.* Delicious, soft, waxy, brioche scent and taste. Good value.

● **1990 Croser, Australia,** *Oddbins £10.49.* Creamy mousse and elegant, waxy fruit flavours, with plenty of yeasty, fresh bread character.

● **1988 Argyle Pinot-Chardonnay, Oregon,** *Oddbins £9.99.* Unusual toasty, almost smoky-bacon scent, backed by classy fruit.

● **1989 Green Point Vineyard Brut, Australia,** *Sainsbury £9.95, Majestic Wine Warehouses and Victoria Wine £9.99.* Long, rich, creamy, pineapply flavours; touch of brioche yeastiness.

● **Schaffenberger Brut, California,** *Asda £8.99 (in April).* Light, lemony, waxy fruit and pleasant brown-bread autolysis makes this one of California's top *méthode champenoise* sparklers.

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The event is organised in association with The Brain Trust, a charitable organisation dedicated to research and dissemination of knowledge about learning and the brain, and coincides with the trust's "Brain of the Year Award", to be announced at Simpson's.

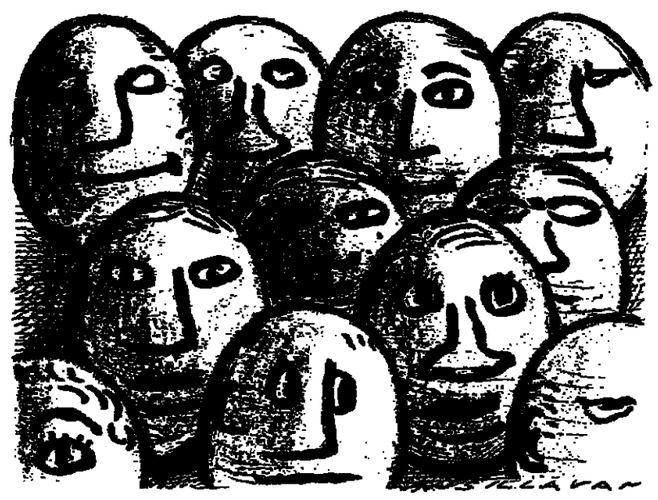
The nominees for the award are: Bobby Fischer, the American chess champion; William Gates, founder of Microsoft; Stephen Hawking, the celebrated physicist; Gary Kasparov, the Russian chess champion; Nigel Kennedy, the controversial violinist; Dominic O'Brien, the first World Memory champion; Judit Polgar, at 15 the youngest ever chess grandmaster; Carl Sagan, the American "astronomer royal"; Ganesh Sittamplan, the 13-year-old maths genius; and Dr Marion Tinsley, the world draughts champion for 38 years.

● **Dominic O'Brien,** who has memorised all 7,000 answers to the new Trivial Pursuits, and also holds the world record of 55.64 seconds for the perfect memorisation of a 52-deck pack of cards, will be joining our Easter day event, and among the other celebrities at Simpson's will be:

● **Tony Buzan,** founder of The Brain Trust, originator of "Mind Maps" and author of the best-selling book *Use Your Head* (BBC). He will tell how families can develop their own family genius, and play speed chess with 17-year-old Tracey Thompson, the leading female player in *The Times* British Schools Chess Championship.

● **Raymond Keene,** grandmaster chess player and chess correspondent for *The Times*, who will invite guests to challenge him in simultaneous games.

● **Philip Bond,** who can memorise more than 3,000 digits of the number *pi*. He is also able to define the whereabouts of a sequence of any five numbers in the 3,000 digits.



Give your brain a real holiday treat

● **Julian Simpole,** an international chess grandmaster, who will be challenging other players.

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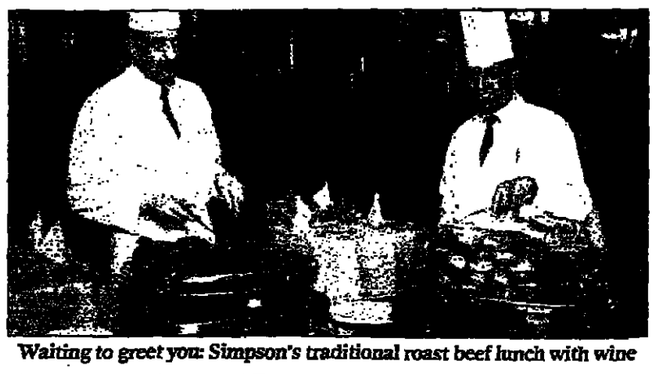
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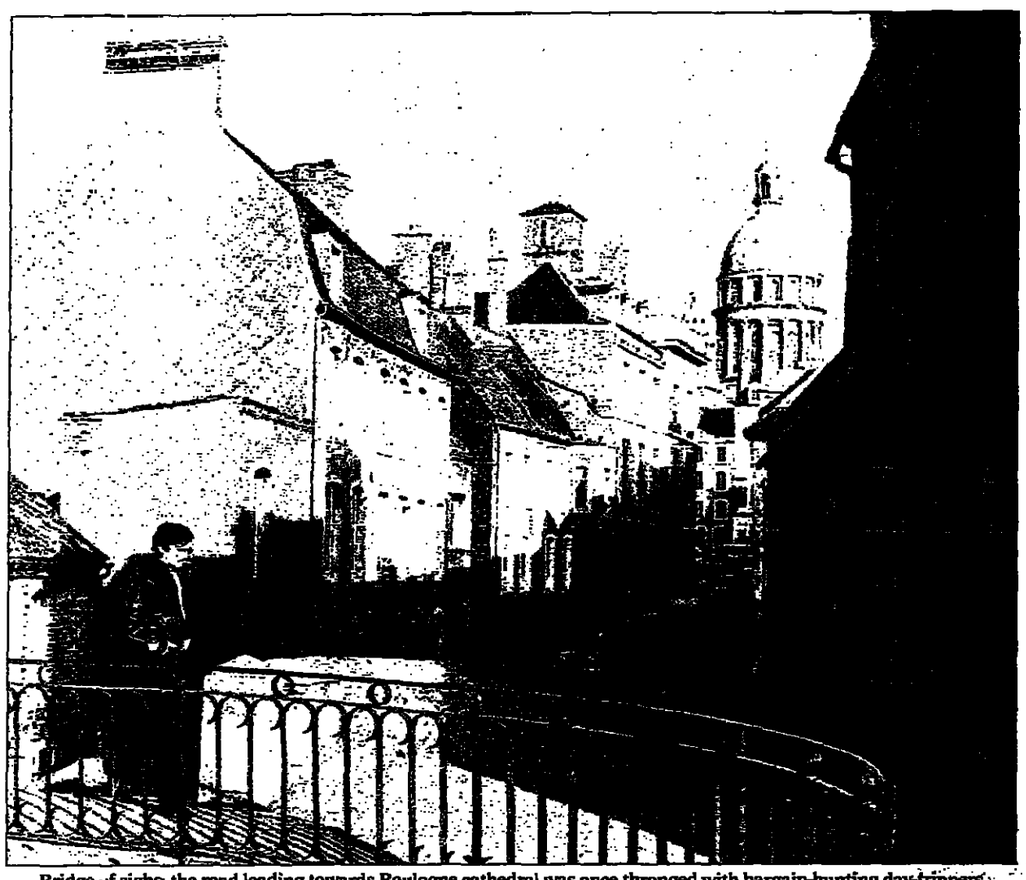
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Waiting to greet you: Simpson's traditional roast beef lunch with wine



Bridge of sighs: the road leading towards Boulogne cathedral was once thronged with bargain-hunting day-trippers

Missing the boat

Boulogne is determined to win back its UK visitors despite the loss of the P & O ferry. Robin Young reports

If you want to see a Frenchman spit, go to Boulogne-sur-Mer and mention P & O. The British ferry operator is rather less popular than a trawler full of cheap British skate in the French port just now.

By summarily halting its ferry service between Dover and Boulogne in the first days of this year, just as European trade barriers were swept away, the company robbed Boulogne of millions of pounds worth of business at a stroke. In 1992, the P & O service carried more than a million passengers to Boulogne, 151,000 tourist vehicles and 25,000 lorries and vans. It represented a turnover of FFr25 million (about £3 million) for the port, and it was snatched away without discussion or notice.

The decision came as a bolt from the blue, the Boulonnais say, because it was in direct contradiction to undertakings the company had given the Boulogne chamber of commerce that the service would continue as scheduled through 1993, at least.

In a town already suffering 16 per cent unemployment, the locals felt the ferry company had hit far below the belt.

P & O had already printed and distributed two editions of its brochures and timetables for 1993, saying that its ships *Pride of Hythe* and *Pride of Canterbury* would sail six times daily in each direction between Dover and Boulogne. These are so much waste paper now. P & O has concentrated everything on Calais to meet the challenge of the Channel tunnel, due to open in December. For the first time in 150 years, no ferry service links Dover with Boulogne.

The effects on Boulogne are immediately apparent. In the main shopping streets, prime sites are boarded up, or have their windows plastered with posters announcing "*Liquidation totale*" and "*Fermeture définitive*".

In the Haute Ville, the old part of the town around the cathedral, a pall of despair has settled on what P & O brochures used to call "the peaceful cobbled streets". "Time slows down", P & O enthuses in what should be a current brochure, "within the 13th-century ramparts of the Old Town." The truth is that for many in the Old Town, thanks to P & O, time has run out.

Worst hit are those traders who were most popular with British day-trippers, and who grew to depend on their custom. British day-trippers are rare birds in Boulogne these days, because the port's only remaining link with Britain — four daily sailings by Hoverspeed's Seacat catamaran from Folkestone — allows scant time ashore on winter schedules, and does not sail at all when seas are rough.

The Restaurant de la Haute Ville, also known as *La Gargantua*, last year served up to 350 meals a day to British tourists. Now closed, its staff have joined Boulogne's lists of unemployed. Christiane Nortier, whose family ran the business for 45 years, surrendered to the inevitable last month. More than four-fifths of the restaurant's business had disappeared since P & O quit in January.

Other traders in the Haute Ville are concerned that more will soon follow. "The situation is desperate," says Chantal Vanheeckhoet, who keeps a smart gift shop in the *rue de Lille*. "Our trade began to fall noticeably last May, after Sealink withdrew its boats. It became worse with the devaluation of the pound. But since P & O has gone, it is down another 35 per cent."

In April Boulogne's tourism committee, with the aid of a private sponsor, will run four coaches each morning from Calais to encourage Britons to make the 20-minute run down the autoroute to Boulogne. But coaches with 50 or 60 passengers apiece are little compensation for ferry boats which carried up to 1,125 each.

Previously, when the pound fell as low as its present level of about FFr8, leaving Britons disinclined to open their purses, notices sometimes appeared in shops warning: "No just looking" or "No free entry for British tourists".

It is very different now. At the Centre Commercial de la Liane, around the PG supermarket across the river from the empty ferry berths, Le Bistrot café displays a sign addressed to British shoppers: "You are welcome to bring your trolleys into the café." Rivals offer a "free glass of white wine with every meal".

The taxi drivers in Place Dalton, the market square, are despondent, too. They miss the business from Britons anxious to get quickly from the ferry terminal to the railway station, or to the Auchan hypermarket four miles away.

At Auchan the selection of wines and beers is far superior to anything in Calais, but relatively few British shoppers are taking advantage of the new freedom to load up with as much as they can drink. The management insists that many British groups travelling by coach and car still make the journey because of Auchan's superior reputation, but they admit that numbers are heavily down on what would have been expected had the ships still been running.

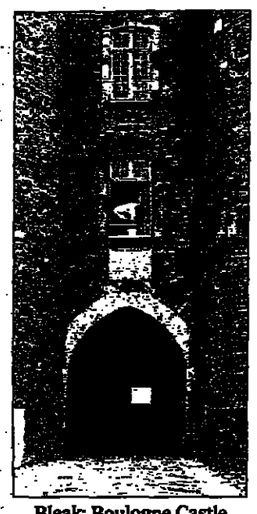
One man wrong-footed by P & O's abrupt withdrawal was Martin Brown of The Grape Shop, Battersea, south London. He had just committed himself to opening a branch of his wine shop in Boulogne's rue Victor Hugo, hoping to supply high quality wines to shoppers keen to benefit from the single market's liberality towards wine imports to Britain.

The ferries stopped the week before the shop opened, but Mr Brown and his partners do not regret their decision to go ahead. "People who are interested in buying fine wines, instead of supermarket plonk, will not be put off," says David Sant of The Grape Shop.

In the long run, the Pas-de-Calais tourism committee believes British holidaymakers' love of Boulogne will prevail. The committee expects fewer tourists, but higher-spending ones. Perhaps, once the tunnel has opened and its consequences are clearer, someone will restart the Boulogne ferry service.

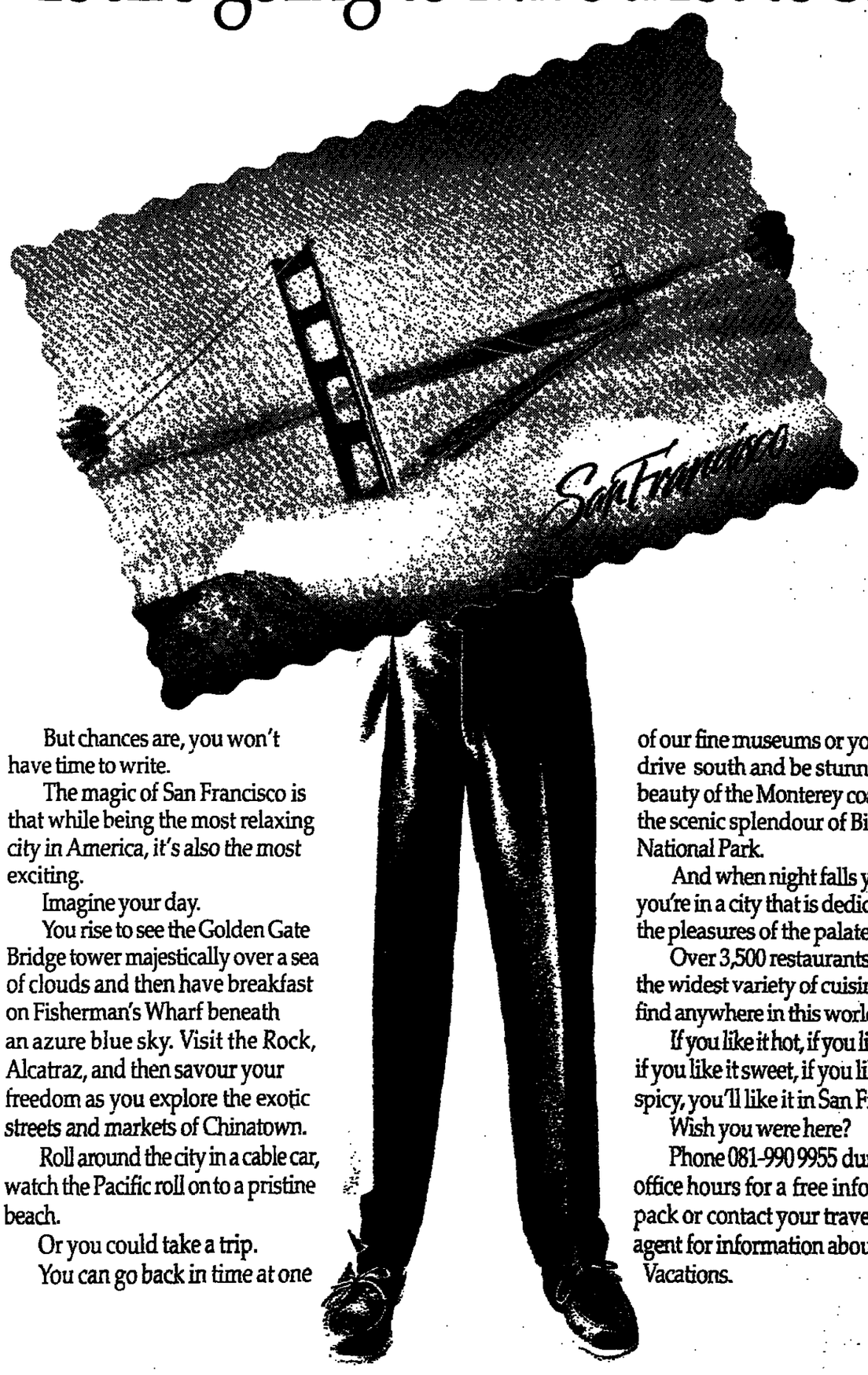
"We did have some problems with day-trippers in the past," a spokesman for the committee said. "Of course, the cafés and bars will miss them badly in the short term, but in the long run it may be a blessing of sorts. It will help us make Boulogne an even more attractive place."

● *Details of Hoverspeed Seacat service, call 0304 240241.*



Bleak: Boulogne Castle misses the sightseers

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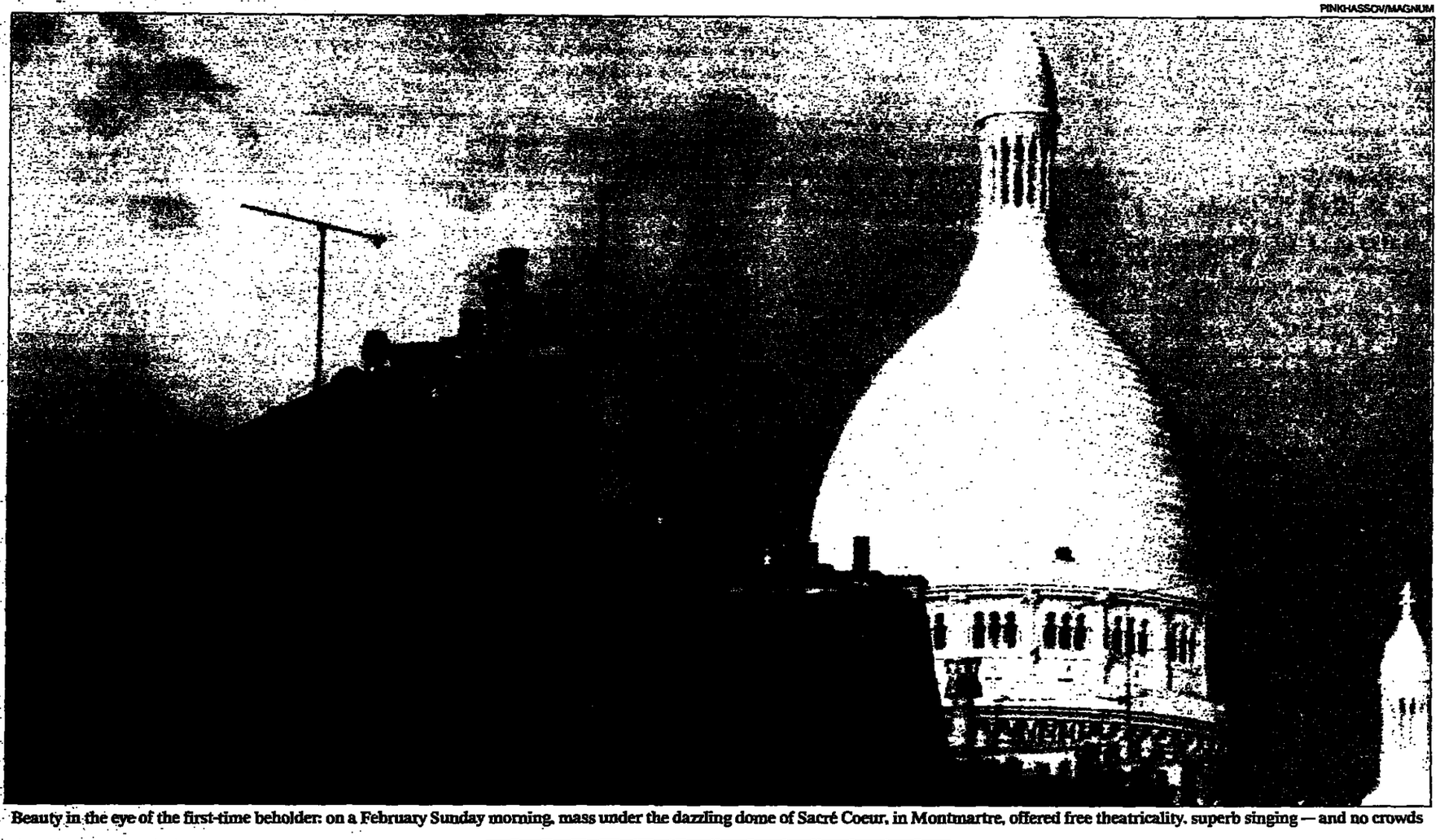
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هكذا من الأصل

Moaning about the Mona Lisa

Sally Baker introduces her teenage daughter to the pleasures, cultural and otherwise, of Paris

PINKHASSOV/MAGNUM



Beauty in the eye of the first-time beholder: on a February Sunday morning, mass under the dazzling dome of Sacré Coeur, in Montmartre, offered free theatricality, superb singing — and no crowds

When you take a teenager to Paris for the first time, you have to expect a bit of whinging. My daughter Erin, aged 14, had three complaints. She thought the *Mona Lisa* a bit on the small side, as major paintings go. She did not appreciate having to sidestep dog mess on the pavements every few minutes. And she was a touch anxious about the body in the Métro — although frankly, I wasn't too crazy about it either.

The Métro has got pretty seedy since I was last in Paris four years ago. We endured the drunks, junkies, beggars, buskers and dossers in fairly good heart, but what was that bundle of rags stretched across the centre of our carriage that everyone else was stepping gingerly over? I am ashamed to confess that fear of the unknown overcame my longing to be a good Samaritan, and we, too, stepped gingerly over him, her or it. *Next time, I shall stick to buses by day and taxis by night.*

However, in all other respects Paris was a winner. We flew into Charles de Gaulle airport on Saturday morning, and by mid-afternoon were strolling arm in arm down the Boul' Mich'-in the winter sunshine, munching hot *croques-monsieurs* bought from a stand, for all the world like a couple of old left-bank *habitués*.

In the course of the next three days we comprehensively did the sights from our perfect hotel base in *St Germain*. Fortified each morning by croissants and baguette for breakfast, we began the day's expedition. It was very cold, but the sky was blue and the sun shone throughout, and the great February bonus was the absence of crowds and queues. We swept straight into the stunning great glass pyramid in the Louvre courtyard and down the escalators to the magnificent new foyer; smoothly aboard a waiting *bâteau mouche* for our Seine trip; straight into an escalator and up to the second stage of the Eiffel tower *for that perfect, vertiginous view of* the city, sparkling cream and gold far below.

Some things came as a surprise to Erin. "Oh" (on first seeing the Seine and Notre-Dame), "I thought the Seine would be much *wider, like the Rhine, with Notre-Dame on a little island in the middle, and you'd have to take a boat out to it.*" And the Eiffel Tower: "It's higher than I expected. I didn't expect it to be in a park either; thought it was surrounded by buildings. And I didn't realise it was just open metalwork. I thought we'd walk up enclosed stairs."

Montmartre on Sunday morning was a joy. The pavement artists outnumbered the tourists, and Sacré Coeur looking almost *dazzlingly white against the sky ("reminds me of the Taj Mahal", Erin* said). Mass was just beginning as we went in, and we slipped into a pew and listened, discovering at one point that we could join in some of the responses. Later that day we topped up our spiritual levels *at a free organ recital in* Notre-Dame, the soaring Gothic pillars echoing to Bach as fading light filtered through the exquisite rose windows.

Like the rest of us in our time, Erin was nonplussed by the monstrous Pompidou centre ("messy, isn't it?"), but enjoyed its Picassos and Klees rather more than the antiquities and Old Masters of the Louvre. From the top of the external escalators we could see across the roofs of Paris to the slopes of Montmartre and the pale outline of Sacré Coeur. In the open space below as we descended, students were singing "We are the world", jugglers juggled, and motley other entertainers did their own chaotic thing.

> She loved the brasseries — 'much more exciting than just a café, but I'd have hated it if you'd taken me somewhere posh and stuffy'

The art highlight for us both, however, was the Musée d'Orsay, in the former railway station on the *left bank, opposite the Tuileries* gardens. Along the great Impressionists' gallery we reeled happily from Monet to Degas to Renoir. Here was our undoing, in fact — who can bear to leave without a few posters or prints tucked under their arm, and why was there only one checkout till in the museum shop, creating the only queue we suffered in *le tout Paris*? Still, it seems churlish to moan, especially as all the great galleries are free for under 18s (about FFr35, or £4.50, for adults). Do check with a guidebook before planning gallery visits, as most close on one day a week.

In the evenings, I combined eating with entertainment by introducing Erin to the frenzy, bustle and sheer *fun of the great* Paris brasseries. My old favourite, the dazzling art deco Julien in Faubourg St-Denis, is as stunning as ever, although Brasserie Flo nearby seems to have gone off a bit. But the huge La Coupole in boulevard du Montparnasse more than compensated, with its giant revolving central sculpture, green pillars and hurtling waiters. In all three Erin was knocked out by the atmosphere: "I love this. It's much more *exciting than just a café, but* I'd have hated it if you'd taken me somewhere posh and stuffy." She gave the food the thumbs up too ("It's really good, wholesome; looks a bit like nouvelle cuisine but you get lots of it"), and subjected the waiters to close scrutiny.

Finally, she delivered her summation: "If I were a *restaurant* guide I'd judge a restaurant on how good the chips are and how gorgeous the waiters are. This lot are fast, furious and *formidable*."

Well, at least she was practising her French. And now I come to think of it, is there any other way to judge?

● *Sally Baker travelled as a guest of Time Off, Chester Close, Chester Street, London SW1X 7BQ (071-235 8070), which organises short-break packages to a number of European cities. Julien is at 16 rue du Faubourg St-Denis, Paris 10 (47 70 12 06); Brasserie Flo, 7 cour des Petites Ecuries, Paris 10 (47 70 13 59); La Coupole, 102 boulevard du Montparnasse, Paris 14 (43 20 14 20). It is always advisable to book first (prefix numbers with 010 331 when dialling from the UK).*

For Britons driving south, how to avoid the French capital

A passing interest

For motorists heading south from the Channel ports of Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne, or motoring north on their way home, there are now several ways of bypassing Paris and the nightmarish Boulevard Périphérique.

☐ **Route A:** Much the best of the options, if you are driving south towards the Mediterranean or the Alps, is the newly-completed A26/A5/A31 which links Calais to Reims, Troyes, Dijon and Beaune. I call this my "run *to the sun*"; the French have named the A26 the *autoroute des anglais*. It is arguably the most deserted autoroute in France: only Brits seem to use it. Its other bonus is that the entire run to Beaune is free of the hordes of Parisian drivers who hurtle along the A6.

☐ **Route B:** If, however, you consider paying tolls too much of a burden on your holiday budget, then the reliable *bison futé* (crafty bison) route east of Paris — from Senlis to Sens, via Meaux — still works a *treat*. Recently, two friends, travelling in separate cars, put two alternatives to the test: one used the *bison futé* north from Sens, the other the autoroute option to Senlis (A6/Périphérique/A1). The *bison futé* won *hands down*. The entire route is signposted with green *arrows and the word "bis"*.

☐ **Route C:** Neither of the two bypass routes above helps motorists heading for the *Loire, Dordogne and the Massif Central*. Yet another newly-completed route, called la Francilienne, connects the A1, A6 and A10. The bypass starts at the A1 3km south of Charles de Gaulle airport and, heading east around Paris, uses the A104, A4, N104, N447 and N446. La Francilienne is either autoroute or *dual-carriageway over its* entire length from the A1 to A10. Points to watch: the A4 section is just 3½km long. Ignore exit 12 on the A4, which is midway between the junctions with the A104 and N104.

☐ **Route D:** The second alternative bypass for those heading to the heart of France is a few miles east of the Périphérique. This starts at the A1 4½km south of Charles de Gaulle airport. It makes use of the A3, A86 (take great care with the exit off the A3, as it is easily missed), A4, A86 again and N186 to connect with the A6 north of Orly airport. The short A4 section requires care in both directions — keep to the right; and, heading north on the A6, nearing Orly, keep to the extreme right of the autoroute, the Paris *Est* side.

Both Routes C and D can be used by motorists heading south towards Burgundy and the Mediterranean.

☐ **Route E:** Finally, there's the dreaded Périphérique. Some swear by it but I would avoid it except late at night.

☐ **Maps:** Michelin's "blue" route planning *map number* 911 (£3.15) is useful for all of France. The map shows all the country's *bis* routes. In addition take Michelin's spiral-bound *Motoring Atlas France* (scale 1cm to 2km, £11.99).

☐ **Where to stay on the way:** The following establishments have rooms ranging from the simple to the luxurious. The prices are for dinner and bed and breakfast for one person per night. Couples sharing a room will often find the cost per person much lower.



Don't start from here

Route A

L'Epine: Aux Armes de Champagne. Very comfortable hotel opposite flamboyant Gothic basilica. Modern cooking. £90.

Arsonval: La Chaumière. Comfortable restaurant with rooms. Classical and bourgeois dishes. English *patronne*. £35.

Colombey-les-Deux-Eglises: Auberge Montagne. Comfortable family restaurant with *rooms. Classical/bourgeois* cooking. £35.

Route B

Fontaine-Chaalis: Auberge de Fontaine. Comfortable, stone-built *logis*. Basic bourgeois/-classical cooking. £48.

Germigny-l'Evêque: Le Gonfalon. Comfortable, riverside restaurant with rooms. Tasty *seafood dishes*. £72.

Flagy: Hostellerie du Moulin. Very comfortable restaurant with rooms in secluded 13th-century *mill*. Classical cuisine. £50.

Route C

Varennes-Jarcy: Moulin de Jarcy. Secluded restaurant with three simple bedrooms. Basic bourgeois cooking. £42.

St Vrain: Hostellerie de St Caprais. Comfortable restaurant with rooms. Classical/-bourgeois dishes. £56.

RICHARD BINNS

● *More details can be found in the author's* French Leave Encore *(Chiltern House, £9.99).*

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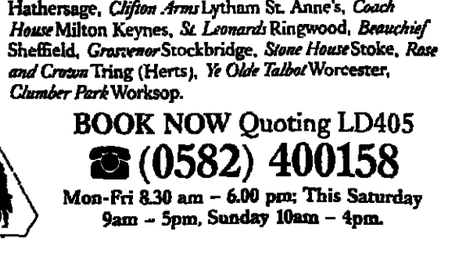
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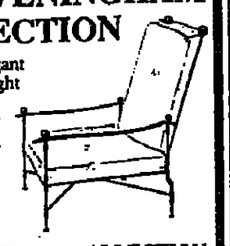
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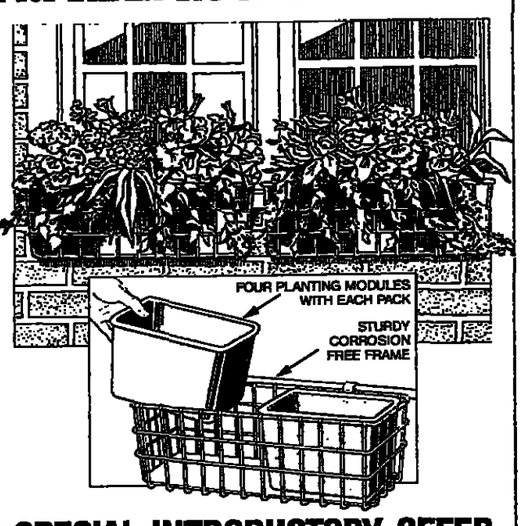
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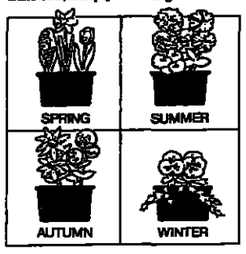
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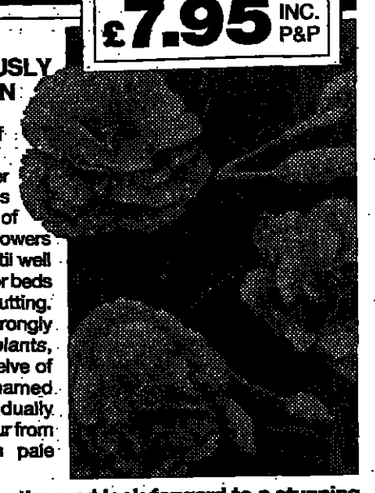


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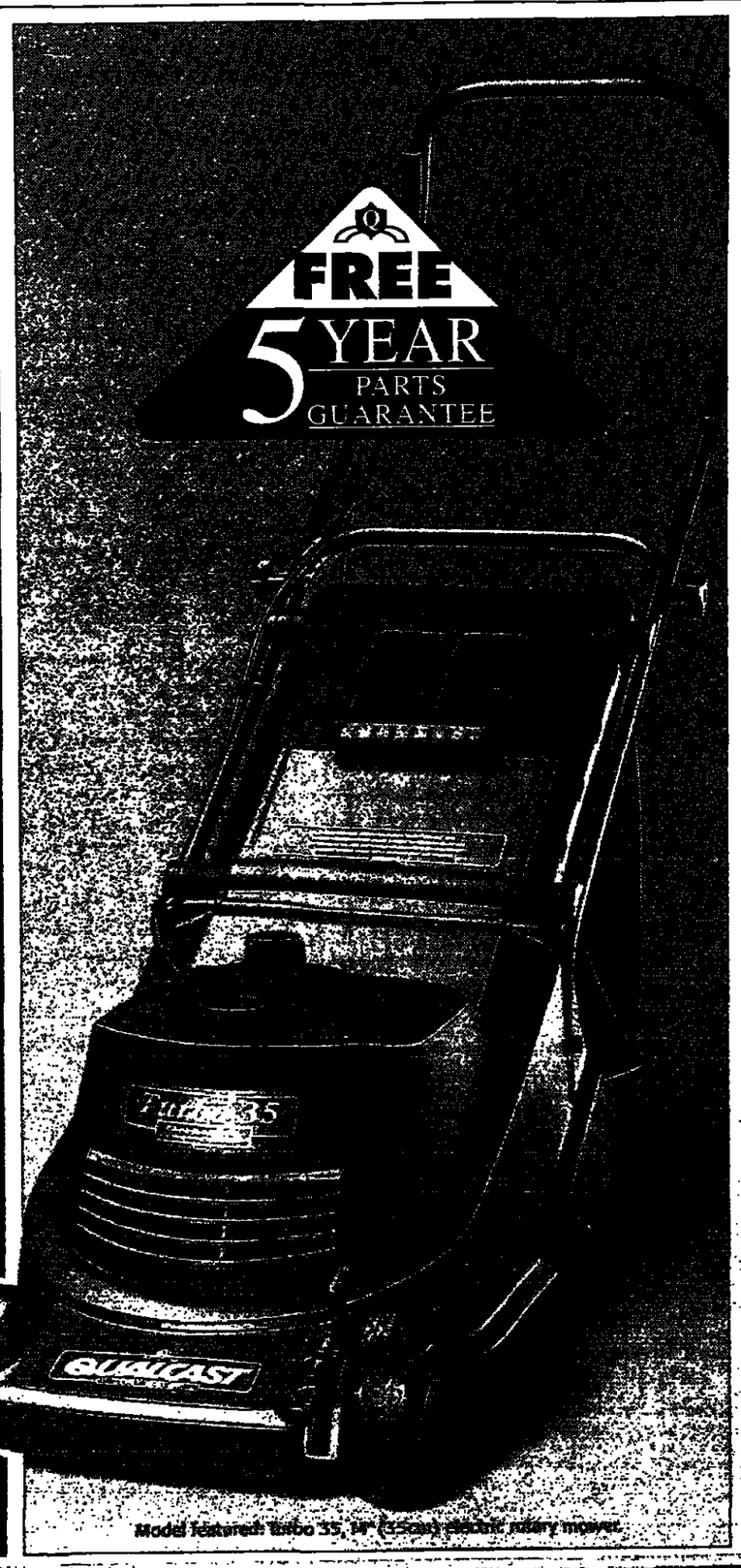
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Francesca Greenoak welcomes the increasingly early arrival of the daffodil season


PETER TREVNOR

Splash of spring: Beth Chatto with *Narcissus pallidiflorus* and *Anemone remorosa* in her garden at Elmstead Market, Essex

One of my favourite gardening books, written 30 years ago, describes April as the definitive "daffodil month". However, the milder winters of recent years have advanced the season. When I bought "February Gold" daffodils 12 years ago, the supplier was not the only one to warn me that the name was wishful thinking, for although it was an early cultivar, it rarely bloomed so soon. This year it was making a brilliant show in its namesake month, and blooming well into March.

Several spring bulb specialists are exhibiting at the International Spring Gardening Fair, which gives a good opportunity to see the full spectrum of the smaller daffodils. Look out in particular on Thursday and Friday (April 8-9) for the Broadleigh Gardens stand, whose excellent range can be ordered at the show.

I was introduced to "February Gold" and several other beautiful cultivars from the *cyclamineus* group of daffodils, many years ago by Beth Chatto in her garden at Elmstead Market, near Colchester. Characterised by early, slightly pendant flowers, with narrow, flaring trumpets and thrown-back perianth petals, this group has a special quality of fragile boldness. It originates in the moist alpine meadows of Spain and Portugal, and although the species *Narcissus cyclamineus* is uncommon in gardens, the cultivars are easy to grow; my own short-list would include the small "Tête-à-tête", "Peeping Tom" (both all gold) and "Jack Snipe" and "Dove Wings", which have paler perianth petals.

Mrs Chatto also recommends the greeny-white "Thalia", which hangs its head, appearing to hover on white wings, and "Tresamble", which has rather more green. Both are small cultivars in the *triandrus* group, which has swept-back petals and drooping flowers. I could not do without the native wild daffodil *Narcissus Pseudo-Narcissus*, which looks lovely in grass or flowerbeds.

Mrs Chatto also rates highly the pale Pyrenean sub-species, *Narcissus Pseudo-Narcissus pallidiflorus*, which is similar in form but creamy lemon throughout, and unusual in that it holds its flower upward.

Another species daffodil, highly favoured in Mrs Chatto's garden, is the delightful *Narcissus minor*, native to France and northern Spain but perfectly hardy in Britain. I shall grow some this year and compare them with "Little Gem", another small, graceful daffodil. Although so small (about 15cm or so), the plants have a distinct presence, the golden-yellow flowers held level or slightly pendant.

The small, trumpet daffodils are very easy to grow and require no special attention. I planted several small drifts of my favourites when I came to my present garden 12 years ago, grouping them by cultivar to appreciate the individual character of each kind. All the clumps, whether naturalised in grass or in beds, have increased in size, except in one place where the soil is rather poor and what was dappled shade has grown deeper.

I have a few of the larger flowered hybrids, mainly those given to me for trials, but in general I like these less than the smaller-flowered kinds, and use them mainly for cut flowers. Even these large-trumpet daffodils and small-cupped *narcissi*, which generally flower in April or May, have come into bloom early.

This spring, the garden at least has been one place where the early green shoots reliably fulfilled their promise.

● *Broadleigh Gardens is at Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset TA4 1AE (0823 286231).*

Clematis

Clematis macropetala is not a particularly well known clematis but is one of the hardiest and least troublesome to grow and look after. If your taste is for smaller, dainty flowers, it is one of the most attractive. The lavender-pink species is well worth seeking out, and there are good pink cultivars such as "Rosie O'Grady" and "Markham's Pink" and mauve-blues such as "Jan Lindmark" or "Maidwell Hall". "White Swan" and "Snowbird" also have the typical lantern flower and are very pretty.


Hardy: *Clematis macropetala*

Jobs

● *Plant early potatoes, which should be well chitted by now.*

● *Take cuttings from* Helichrysum petiolare *to plant later in containers.*

● *Sow early peas such as "Meteor" in the south, leave for two weeks in colder regions.*

● *Plant onion sets, and sow outdoor tomatoes such as "Alicante" and "Sungold".*

● *Take cuttings from chrysanthemums which are beginning to sprout from the base.*

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ROSIE BARNES
Director of Birthright



Where would you go?
Whitstable, in Kent, where my brother lives. It is a lovely little seaside town and very unspoilt.

How would you get there?
Whitstable is less than an hour's drive from my home in Greenwich.

Where would you stay?
In Copeland House, a traditional English bed-and-breakfast, which overlooks the sea and is across the road from where my brother lives. It has a jolly landlady and the breakfasts are enormous.

Who would be your perfect companion
My husband, Graham.

What essential piece of clothing or kit would you take?
Boots, a thick coat and a scarf, and my silk underwear.

What medicines would accompany you?
None. I could get anything I needed in Whitstable.

What would you have to eat?
Oysters at The Oyster House in Whitstable. I have had oysters in Paris and Italy but never had any as good as those in Whitstable.

What would you have to drink?
Dry Martini, sancerre to go with the seafood, and whisky, which I have on special occasions.

Which books would you take to read?
An Inspector Morse book by Colin Dexter, a good gripping novel such as *Gone To Soldiers* by Marg Piercy and an old classic by Guy de Maupassant.

What music would you listen to?
My husband is addicted to classical music and plays it all the time. I like classical music, but I like pop as well and would listen to Freddie Mercury as a contrast.

What would you watch on television?
Inspector Morse.

What film would you watch?
Anna Karenina or a good whodunit.

What piece of art would you like to look at?
Canterbury Cathedral. My brother is an archaeologist and has just uncovered the foundations of the Saxon cathedral, under the floor of the present cathedral. I would get him to show me the foundations and tell me all about it.

Would you play any games or sport?
None that I am going to tell you about. I am not into team games or outdoor sports.

What luxury would you take?
Making the time to go away and packing my best clothes; my nicest make-up and perfume would be a luxury for me.

Who would be your least welcome guest?
I will not name them, but I do have a little list.

What three things would you leave behind?
My diary, the telephone ringing, my briefcase.

What three things would you like to do
1. Have afternoon tea in Canterbury. 2. Walk along the beach at Whitstable on Sunday morning. 3. Go for a Sunday lunchtime drink at The Neptune, the pub on the beach.

Who would you send a postcard to?
My mum.

What souvenir would you bring back?
Some shells for my son, Joseph, who is seven, and seafood for my teenagers, Danny and Daisy.

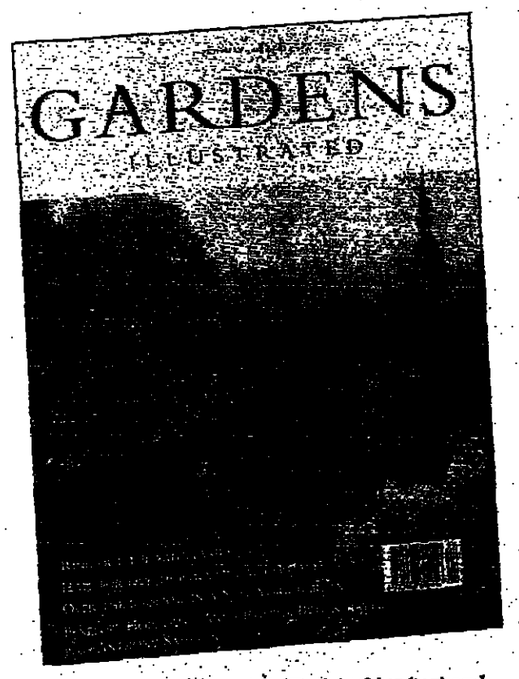
What would you like to find when you got home?
My elderly dog still alive. He is 15 and I worry about him when I go away.

Interview by Rosanna Greenstreet

● *Birthright is a charity that funds medical research to improve the health of women.*

Cultivated read with the human touch





Great oaks from little acorns: Rosie Atkins (top) and the cover of the first issue of *Gardens Illustrated*

A new magazine captures the special magic of gardening — a mix of inspiration and information

Do we really need another gardening magazine? Newsagents' shelves are already heavy with gaudy gardening mags, increasingly encumbered with plastic trowels, tacked-on seed packets and other sales-war allsorts, *Francesca Greenoak writes*. Personally I find them off-putting, not because I know everything, but because I do not connect in any way with them.

Gardens Illustrated, newly arrived on the scene, is not a competitor in this league. It is a completely different species. The stylish modern classicism of its design enables it to convey something of the peculiar magic of gardening. Rosie Atkins, the editor, says that the magazine is primarily inspirational. Nonetheless, you come away from this first issue of *Gardens Illustrated* with a good understanding of the thinking about gardens, and a gleaming of practical, imaginative ideas, not least on grass and path-making.

Reading Beth Chatto's beautifully illustrated review of fritillaries, I was forced to confront the likelihood that several had failed with me not only because I could not give them precisely the right conditions, but that I did not guard them adequately from competition from invasive bedfellows in their first years.

I find hardy dahlias interesting plants and believe that they are likely to become fashionable, so I was intrigued to read Patrick Taylor's description of *Dahlia merckii* and its special Hadspen variant (bred by the nursery of that name). It has to be said that gardening at this intensity could become sententious and rather precious, so it was fun to discover a gardener's horoscope, a gossip column and shopabout pages.

The contrived absence of people in the beautiful gardens pictured in coffee-table books has always upset me. I want to see gardeners in their habitat: Vita Sackville-West in her breeches, Gertrude Jekyll grim-faced at Munstead Wood. My favourite article in this magazine has to be the description and loving pictures of the gallant 91-year-old Maria Hofker in her allotment garden near Amsterdam. The story of the stonemasons and the revival of Coadestone ornament was almost as gripping. I am glad Ms Atkins says the human element is something that she wants to develop in future issues.

She admits that *Gardens Illustrated* comes very much from the heart, and believes that others will also respond to its fresh, non-nostalgic approach. She is already planning ways to expand and improve, making it a forum for the interchange and sharing of the best of international ideas, for example. The publisher John Brown (with *Viz* and in-house magazines in his stable) is rather touchingly nervous about his latest protégé, but is obviously very proud of it. He points out that if you succeed in reaching your target readers in a specialist magazine, you can profit with a comparatively small print run.

> She plans to make it a forum for the best of international ideas

The magazine is to be published every two months and costs £2.95. The pioneer issue has that slightly rarified feel that characterises first publications, but already an individual voice is identifiable. The editor and the two associate editors, Anna Pavord and Penelope Hobhouse, came to gardening by various non-conformist routes, and although they have horticultural qualifications and experience enough, their collective viewpoint avoids the narrow-mindedness of a completely conventional horticultural education. The result is a publication of remarkable freshness, and one I hope will develop and expand.

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WHAT TO WEAR

Jolly good boating weather for young blades

The oarsmen who will compete in today's Boat Race look much too good on or off the water, says an unfit Andrew Yates, who will follow the race from the pub



You can spot them a mile off at any social do. Clean-cut, clean-shaven, clean-living and tanned, casually sipping at a glass of orange juice and mineral water. It takes just a glance to bolster your guilt over the extra slice of fried bread that morning, to remind you of just a little too much claret taken the night before.

Of course, it's not their fault that they look fit and you don't even come near. But the resentment can build up. You know they were up that morning for a quick jog and a few punishing exercises on the river while you were groping blindly for the Alka Seltzer.

The difference lies not merely in the sporty way they bear themselves, nor in their chiselled chins compared to your characterful jowls. The oarsmen of Oxbridge exude athleticism, even in the way they dress. And today that means the American "preppy" look of the boy next door who can turn his hand to anything: keen, helpful and proficient.

Look at the smiling Cambridge crew, in their baseball caps, loafers and carefully faded jeans. They're bright, busy and on the ball — not the sort to slouch around on holiday, especially if windsurfing, jet skiing or some other boyish activity were on offer. Not for them a long lounge by the pool, book in hand, cold beer at the fingertips: they'd be off in their aviation shades for some action.

It is clear at a glance that these are the kind of chaps who would take their mountain bikes straight up the mountains for which they were intended, rather than pedalling gently to the pub avoiding all hills. The exercise routine they follow could have come from John Major — "if it isn't hurting, it isn't working" — and perhaps that gives them the right to look smug.

*Up at 6.30am every morn*ing for a brisk two-hour workout; back for breakfast and lectures; training again after lunch, and probably after tea too. Six hours in all and, having achieved so much in a day, they should look good in civvies — although, if one of *their managers is* to be believed, there's not a lot of social profit to be gained by it.

"They might run into their girlfriends for half an hour," says Roger Stephens, a former Cambridge blue who umpired at last year's boat race, "but they don't see much of them, and they certainly wouldn't let them get in the way.

"This exile is not imposed upon them," he insists; "any athlete in their position would concentrate totally on the race."

These athletes are at the top of their tree and, away from the river, the crew dress in the sort of casual style that goes with success, sunny afternoons and soft-top cars. Their loose but ever-so-slightly stylish jerseys, discreetly patterned but not heavily so, make ready goalposts for an impromptu game of football in the park; the cotton rugger shirts and tartan lumberjacks are rough enough to stand some macho battering. The light blue of the ribboned blazers they bear so proudly marks them out as special sportsmen.

I shared a room with an oarsman in Oxford some years ago who wasn't so special. He was not at all successful at the sport, and he had a ghastly, busy attitude to life. He would relax for a while in the evening with his preferred tipple, a modest glass of Liebfraumilch, listening to Wagner. Come the morning, however, he was off like a jack rabbit in his terrible tracksuit for training. At some unearthly hour he would leap *out of bed with a cry of* "My God, look at the time." Then, after prancing round the room for five minutes humming out-of-tune Wagner, he would slam the heavy oak door and run cheerily down the stairs.

This rower was a pioneer of the tracksuit-and-trainers brigade who will swell the banks at Putney and Hammersmith this afternoon for the Boat Race. He wore them all the time — to lectures, lunch and supper — and, to be fair, he was in good enough shape to carry them off.

It's all a far cry from the heavy clothes that Oxford blues were wearing in the 1950s. Jonathan Harrison, a retired company finance director who rowed for the Eight in 1954, talked of "blanket" trousers. "And they really were made of blankets," he said. "They were lovely white trousers, very warm. We all had to wear them in the last few weeks. We would go down to the river wearing all this heavy gear, and change into our rowing kit. Then, after the training, we would change back into the smart clothes and head back to our hotel. Sadly, I lost my trousers the day after the race."

The trouble is that tracksuits are so absolutely comfortable. The Cambridge crew, who spend so much time in training, see little reason not to don cotton pants and a soft top when out and about. Drostan Vye, aged 23, who rowed three years ago for Goldie, the Cambridge team's second crew, and has been a manager of this year's team, wears this kind of outfit most of the time, as do many of the boat crew. "You have to think about the type of student they are. They will be fit, so they will want to wear things which will make that clear. Trainers — there's a lot of those: a soft cotton top with three or four buttons down the shirt. And tracksuit bottoms or jeans. It's comfortable and casual," he says.

Fitness is of the essence here. But what of the multitude of the great unfit who try to emulate that sporty dress sense? You can be sure that, as the oarsmen don their dreaded Lycra shorts this afternoon for the race, there will be those among the spectators who will waddle on to the banks like shuffling duvets bursting out of bright nylon covers. As for me, I will don some baggy cords, as befits my far from sporty figure, and head for a country pub I know. There I shall root quietly for the men in dark blue, while supping an agreeable pint of bitter.



Dine in farmhouse style with this traditional, lasting furniture

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● **Three-over-three dresser:** Similar to the above, but with three doors and three drawers. There are also three shelves below an Irish fretwork header piece and moulded cornice, framed by vertical cock-beading. Size: 60in wide, 78in high, 20in deep, 35in base height, 6-8in dresser depth. **Price: £590** (saving £60).

Note: The widths given for the dressers are the basic carcase dimensions; allow an extra 2½in *each side for the cornice at the* top. The depth of the dressers vary slightly, dependent on material available at the time of order.

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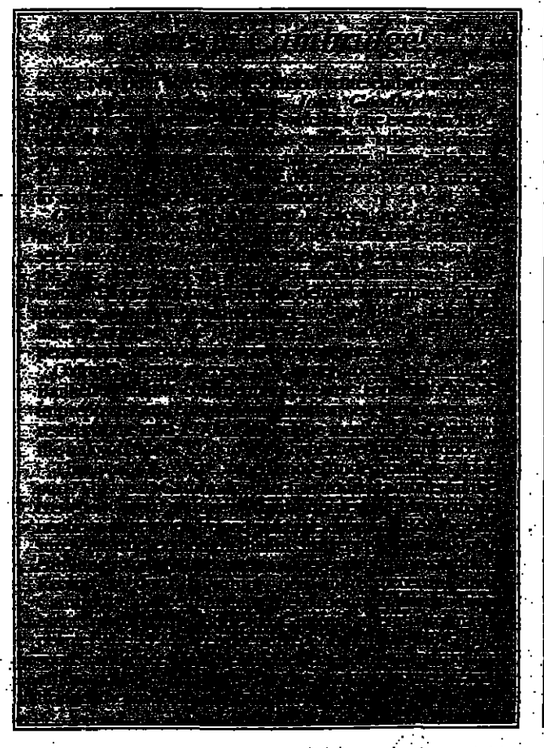
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SPORTING LIFE





Looking for a fight: the winning fencer must be a combination of liar and mime artist

In love with the cut and thrust of swordplay

I am sport-proof. Show me an exercise video and I will touch type to the music, but like an atheist drawn to Hare Krishna, I fear I may have discovered the one true sport — fencing.

"Do you take regular exercise?" the fencing master asks.

"I jog round to the shop," I offer, glad that I no longer have to admit: "for cigarettes".

"Do you play tennis?"

Aha! the speeded-up tennis analogy. "No."

Is he downhearted? He is not. And once placed in the *en-garde* position — foil extended from the right hand, left arm all *Swan Lake* — neither am I. For I soon discover that it is true, fencing is all-absorbing.

I forget that I felt foolish and unfit, that I doubted I could grasp the French terminology. I am possessed by my *directe attaque*, my *coupé*, which cuts under my master's blade, my *une deux*, passing under his blade twice. And when he approves, "*Oui, c'est ça*," oh the joy!

A large part of fencing's appeal is the glamour. Did you see Tim Robbins in *Bob Roberts*, lunging delectably about in short jacket and breeches? So did I, before sampling fencing in a real *salle* beneath the Lansdowne Club in Mayfair. Here, unlike the multi-purpose halls where chalk marks define the *piste*, there is a permanent copper mesh strip so matches can be electronically scored. The walls are hung with masks, foils, épées, sabres, old photographs and political cartoons.

Here too is the gentlemanly Jeremy Parkins, brother of John, two of only four traditionally trained *maîtres d'armes* in Britain and the sons of Alfred Parkins, fencing master to the last two British world champions. I have been told that Mr Parkins is patient and gentle with beginners.

He says that people can fence into their eighties, and that the sport attracts many professional people, such as doctors with their analytical curiosity, who approve of the short bursts of activity followed by recovery periods. "One brain surgeon fenced right and left-handed to exercise both sides of the brain," Mr Parkins says. "Lawyers, who have to lead opponents on with bluff and counter-bluff, make good fencers, also business high-fliers, who are used to barter-ing and selling an idea."

> Fencing is an addictive sport, and you even learn to speak French. Patricia Mowbray goes in up to the hilt

Actors often fence because they are taught to at drama school to heighten physical awareness. Mr Parkins ex-plains that it is the best possible sport for speeding up reactions and improving co-ordination between eye, brain and limbs. For this "*conversation du fer*" you have to be a liar and a mime artist, because behind a mask your eyes cannot be seen.

Beginners usually start with the foil, before deciding whether they fancy épée or sabre. The foil is the traditional practice weapon, light and small, whose target is the trunk. Bigger and heavier, the épée is the traditional duelling weapon and is aimed at limbs and trunk. The sabre looks like a soldier's sword, has a curved hand guard, and can be used to attack the top half of the body, either with the flat or the point. James Chambers, Lans-downe's fencing captain and captain of the British épée team, says foilists tend to be prima donnas, épéeists friend-ly and athletic, and sabreurs total extroverts.

I take the foil between thumb and forefinger, the other three fingers simply holding it into my wrist. A thin strap, called a martingale, attaches to the handle and loops around my hand. In one lesson I discover that fencing is not about mus-cle and Errol Flynn swash and buckle, but about brain power and fast reactions.

Mr Parkins says "it takes ten years to make a fencer", and 18 months of dedicated work to reach the lowest level of competition, which probably accounts for a high drop-out rate among beginners. But those who simply want to fence in their home club can enjoy the sport without spending whole weekends fighting in competition.

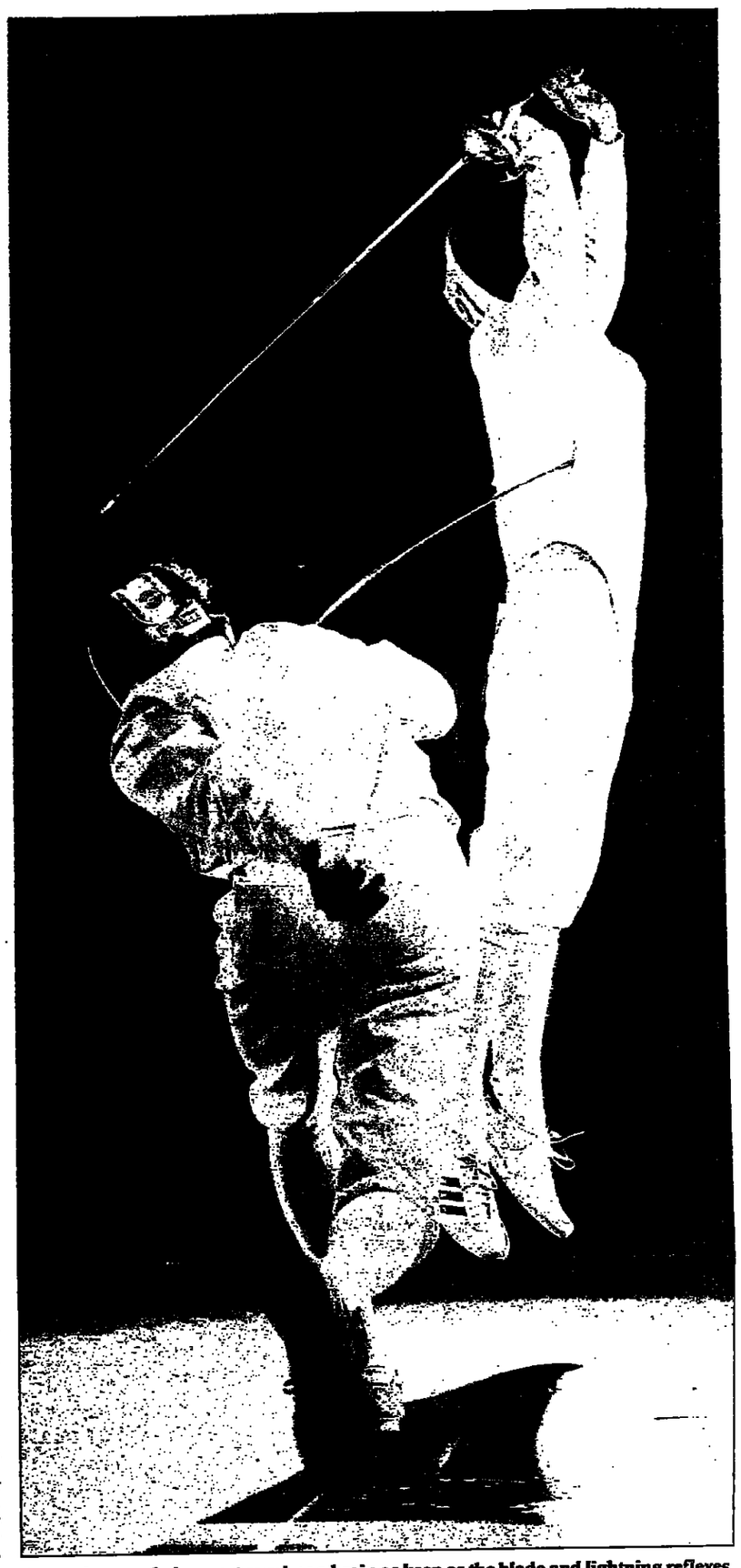
Fencing is sometimes des-cribed as superfast tennis or human chess. I found it more like horse-riding because of the wrist action, balance, and the need to persuade someone bigger and stronger that you are in charge.

But, whatever the analo-gy, learning fencing with Mr Parkins cer-tainly means thinking on your feet. My resistance to French has disappeared. I identify the areas of attack on his torso — "*quarte, sixte, octave, septime*" — with ease.

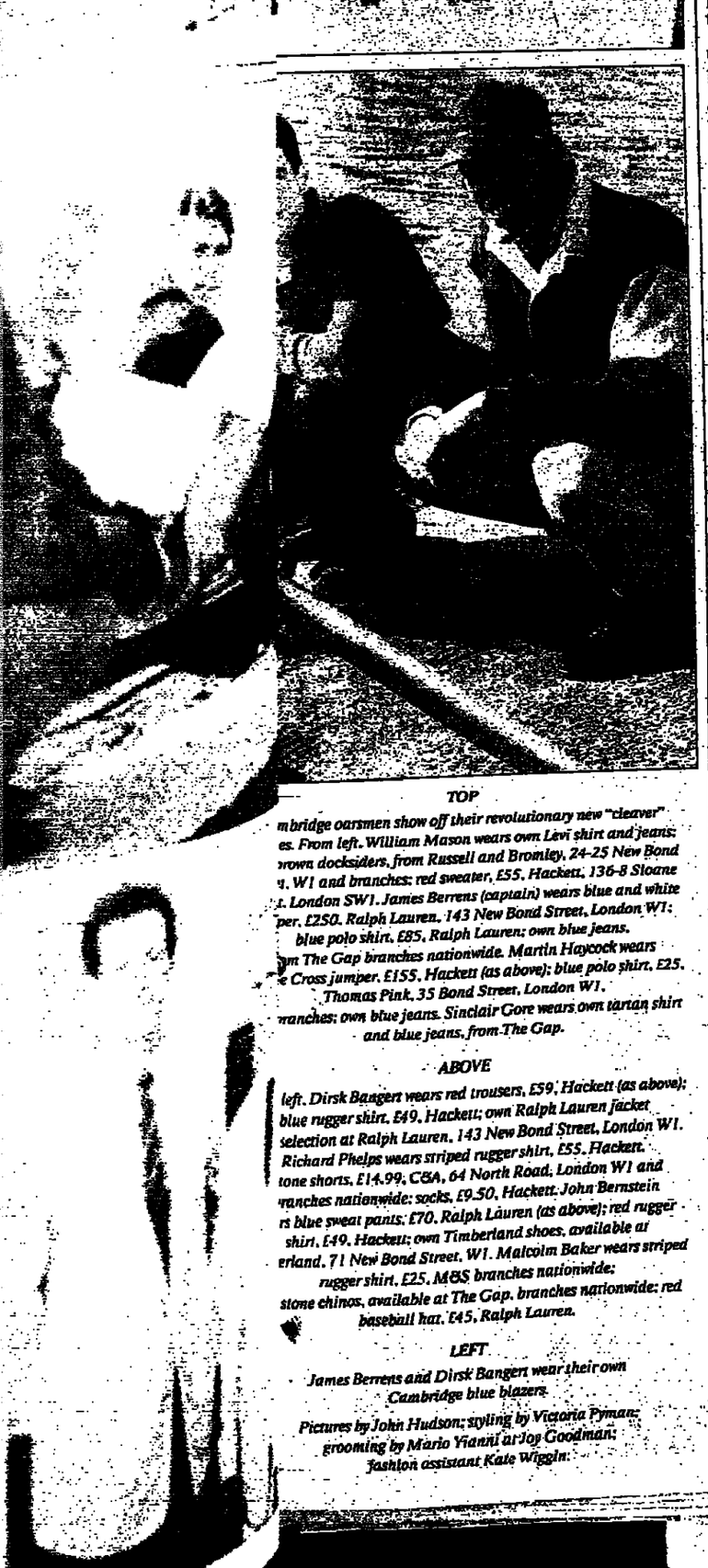
It is not enough. "Which parry did I just stop you with?" he asks. "Close your eyes. Now which parry did I use?" And there it is, the inescapable thought process that if I used a particular attack, he must have deflected it with a particular parry. And the understanding that economical defensive par-ries are all-important.

"If you parry like this," he says, inviting me to swipe his foil away, "I can attack you, and your muscles will not recover in time to parry me."

This is great. I do not need muscle, I do not have to keep going without a break, I do not have to wear a Lycra leotard. They say it is addictive. Per-haps I should not have tried it so soon after giving up smok-ing, for on the Tube home I find myself taking up the fencing stance, and back in the kitchen I grip a kebab skewer to practise my circular parries.



At the sharp end: the sport requires a brain as keen as the blade and lightning reflexes, although most of the fencer's energy is reserved for short bursts of physical activity



TOP

mbridge oarsmen show off their revolutionary new "cleaver" es. From left. William Mason wears own Levi shirt and jeans; rown docksiders, from Russell and Bromley, 24-25 New Bond t, W1 and branches; red sweater, £55, Hackett, 136-8 Sloane t, London SW1. James Berrens (captain) wears blue and white per, £250, Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, London W1; blue polo shirt, £85, Ralph Lauren; own blue jeans. m The Gap branches nationwide. Martin Haycock wears e Cross jumper, £155, Hackett (as above); blue polo shirt, £25, Thomas Pink, 35 Bond Street, London W1. Sinclair Gore wears own tartan shirt ranches; own blue jeans, from The Gap.

ABOVE

left. Dirsk Bangert wears red trousers, £59, Hackett (as above); blue rugger shirt, £49, Hackett; own Ralph Lauren jacket selection at Ralph Lauren, 143 New Bond Street, London W1. Richard Phelps wears striped rugger shirt, £55, Hackett. tone shorts, £14.99, C&A, 64 North Road, London W1 and ranches nationwide; socks, £9.50, Hackett. John Bernstein rs blue sweat pants; £70, Ralph Lauren (as above); red rugger shirt, £49, Hackett; own Timberland shoes, available at erland, 71 New Bond Street, W1. Malcolm Baker wears striped rugger shirt, £25, M&S branches nationwide; stone chinos, available at The Gap, branches nationwide; red baseball hat, £45, Ralph Lauren.

LEFT

James Berrens and Dirsk Bangert wear their own Cambridge blue blazers.

Pictures by John Hudson; styling by Victoria Pyman; grooming by Mario Yianni at Joy Goodman; fashion assistant Kate Wiggin.

En garde for a swashbuckle



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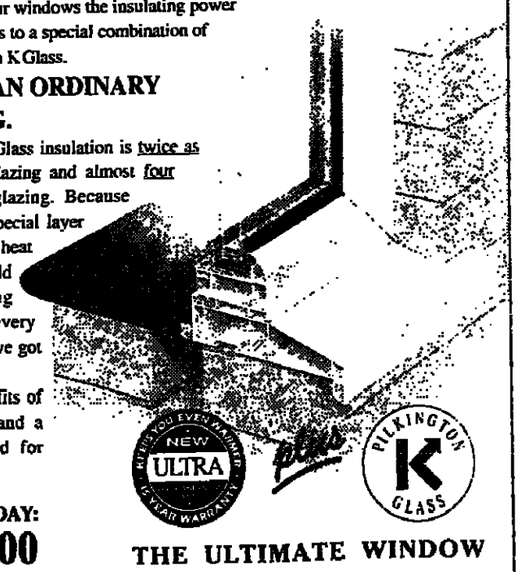
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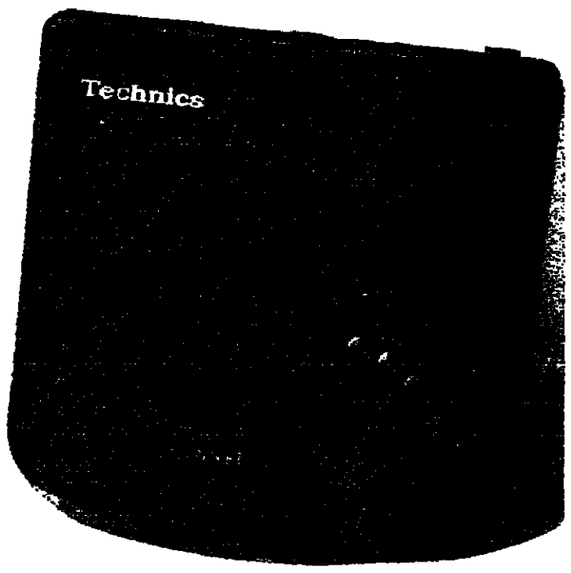
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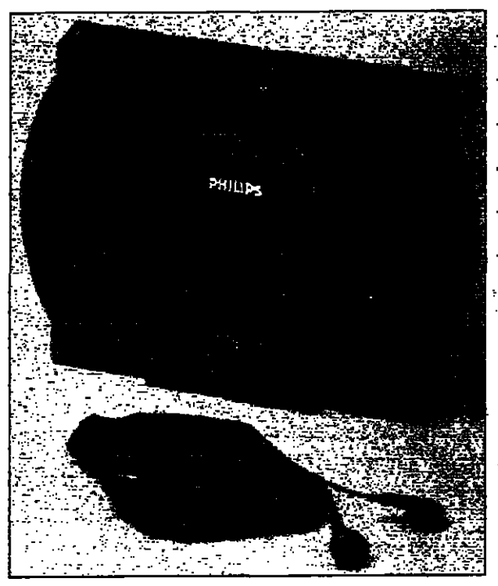
Portable compact-disc players have replaced personal cassette players as the sound machine to be seen with while you move. **Nicole Swengley** puts the leading contenders to the test to see what you get for your money



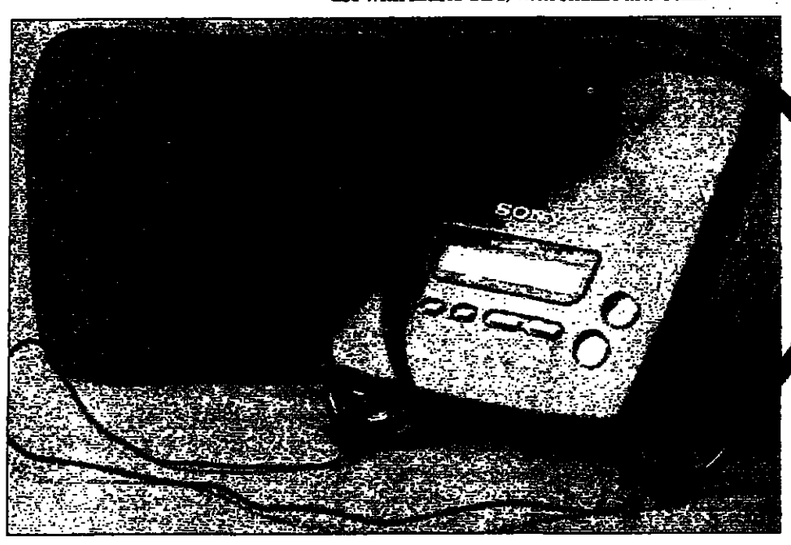




Technics SL-XPS 900 (above), £299.95, 128mm x 128mm by 17.5mm, 346g approx. Accessories: AC mains adaptor, rechargeable batteries, wireless card remote control, soft case, stereo earphones with integral remote control, hi-fi connection cable, battery case. Memory, skip/search, random play, repeat and scan facilities. Back-lit LCD display shows information about batteries, tracks and playing time (about 10 hours using both alkaline and rechargeable batteries).



Philips CDF 100 (above), £349.99, 230mm x 150mm x 380mm, 1kg approx. Accessories: AC mains adaptor, multi-purpose remote control, player stand, audio/video cable adaptors connecting to TV/VCR for Photo CD facility, which allows 35mm colour prints transferred to CD to be viewed on a TV screen. (Negatives can be put on a special CD for about £4.99 plus £17 for developing a roll of 36 shots.) Screen images can be enlarged to view part of the picture. "Favourite picture selection" allows programming of a display sequence. "Favourite track programming" for use with music CDs, with shuffle and scan.



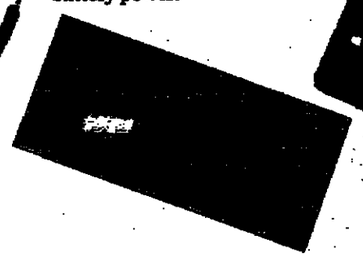


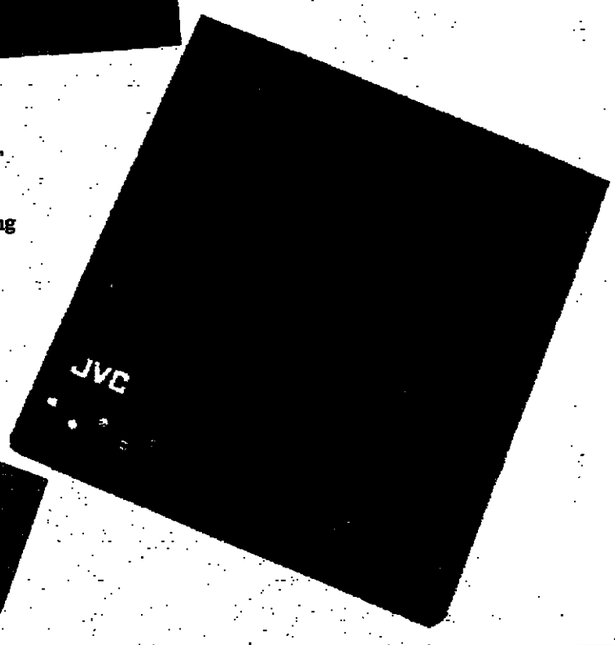


Aiwa X-P7 (left), £169.99, 132.5mm x 150.5mm x 29mm, 280g approx. Accessories: stereo earphones, AC mains adaptor, rechargeable battery, wireless card remote control (above) with track selection and other facilities. Programmable memory, random play, search and repeat facilities.

JVC XL-P90 (below), £199, 148.5mm x 130mm x 17mm, 389g approx. Accessories: AC mains adaptor, rechargeable batteries, stereo earphones, audio/video cable, hi-fi connection cable, carrying case.

Sony D515 (left), £350, 145mm x 128mm x 28.4mm, 400g approx. Accessories: collapsible headphones with remote commander (below), AC mains adaptor, connecting cord, rechargeable battery pack, car-mount adaptor, carrying case. Selection, shuffle, search and repeat facilities. Display shows tracks, playing time and battery power.





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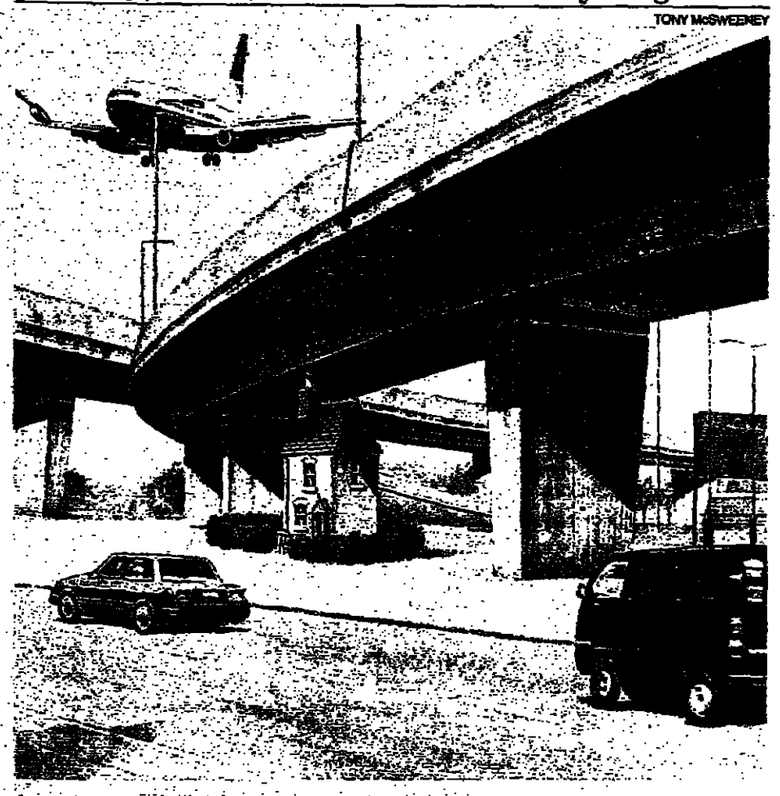
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Ten tips for house-buyers

After our guide to selling your house two weeks ago, buyers asked for advice. **Rachel Kelly** obliges


TONY McSWEENEY

While estate agents, for all their faults, exist to help sellers, advice is in short supply for buyers. Yet never has guidance been more necessary. The Property Misdescriptions Act, to be introduced next month, will restrict what agents say to what they can prove. For fear of contravening the law, many plan to keep details to a minimum. The onus will be on the buyer to find out more.

For all the talk that this is a buyer's market, agents complain about the paucity of good houses for sale. Those sellers who can delay are doing so in the hope of better times ahead. Buyers need to sharpen their act.

You can hire a property search company — "house-hunters", as they are known in the trade — to act on your behalf, but there is a cost attached. Property Vision (071-602 8788) charges 2½ per cent of the purchase price, but demands £1,000 as a basic fee in advance, which will later be deducted from the final invoice if a sale goes ahead. The Property Service (071-736 6888) concentrates on London and charges a £500 basic fee and 1 per cent of the purchase price. Charterhouse Relocation (0225 482727) operates around Bath and charges a £500 fee and 1½ per cent of the purchase price, minus the original £500. The *Association of Relocation* Agents (031-558 3060) is the trade body and has a directory of agents.

With the help of Hambro Countrywide Relocation and a number of house-hunters, *The Times has compiled ten top* tips for buyers.

1 Visit as many agents as possible to collect property details. If telephoned, agents will send only a small selection. *Most agents will not* leave you on their mailing list longer than 2-4 weeks. Owners now usually instruct only one estate agent, so each agent will have a different stock of properties for sale. Do not rely on local newspaper advertisements. The real bargains are never advertised in this way. Drive around seeking "For Sale" boards — but remember that not all sellers display them.

2 Find out about the seller. Ask the agent why the vendors are moving. Forced moves make it much more likely that the owners will *accept a realistic offer. Casual* movers usually ask and expect too much. A vacant property is often owned by a desperate seller.

3 Make yourself an eligible *buyer. Tell the agent if you* do not have a property to sell and that you are in a position to proceed unencumbered. Choose and appoint a solicitor before you find a property — this shows the agent that you *are serious. Discuss mortgages* with an independent (ie, Fimbra-registered) broker. He can save you money and tell you how much you can afford. Consider a property search company.

4 View as many properties as possible to get an accurate idea of prices. Also, you will discover what type of home you *really* like, instead *of what you think you like.* Most buyers end up purchasing something totally different from their original ideal.

Has the property been under offer previously? Why did the buyers withdraw? How *long has it been on the* market? Has the price dropped recently? By what percentage have values dropped in the town since the property came on the market?

If your initial viewing is after *dark, revisit the property in* daylight. Properties often look much better, or worse, or just different in the cold light of day. A quiet country lane on a Sunday might become a race-track in the week.

5 Beware agents' estimates of building costs for renovation. The same applies to architects. Take a builder to the house.

6 If it is a new house, and if some of the units are occupied, call on one or two of the same type as the one you are interested in. Are the owners satisfied with their new *homes? Is the builder helpful* at correcting minor faults? Check how many properties on the development have been sold. If most of the units are for sale, the builders might have cash-flow problems and be *more open to offers.*

7 Remember the adage: location, location, location. Spend time in the area. Talk to the locals, visit the local pub, buy some stamps at the post office. Take as many soundings as you can. Beware of properties where music is playing during the viewing. Are the owners trying to mask the rumble of nearby trains or *aircraft passing over? Beware* high winds masking the usual noise. Check the Ordnance Survey map for footpaths, rubbish dumps and RAF bases. Is the "15-minute run" to the school more like 25 minutes? Go to the planning office, or ask your surveyor to do so. A proposed development a mile away will not show up on the local search that forms part of a solicitor's normal due diligence. Nor will a road-widening scheme or a proposed by-pass.

8 Make the offer through the agent — never directly to the vendor. Owners tend to get emotional about the value of their home. The agent will act as a persuasive go-between — he only gets paid if the property is sold. Tell the agent that you have seen other properties that you also like through other agents. Agents are professional negotiators. Most of them will be better at it than you.

9 Try an initial offer of 80-90 per cent of the asking price, *depending on the* history and circumstances surrounding the property. Almost nobody is offering the asking price at the moment. Be prepared to increase in small steps. Let the owners stew for a day or two before increasing your offer.

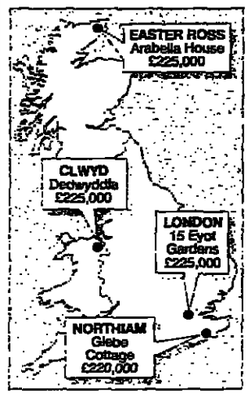
Use a surveyor accustomed to dealing with the type of house you are buying. If your survey gives a low value for the property, ask for a reduction to cover the cost of works. Get free quotes from local builders. Use the highest to get a good reduction — you may be able to do some of the work yourself.

Never tell the agent that you might pay more money. Always state that each offer is your maximum and final one. Ask for extras (ie, carpets, curtains, fridge, cooker, greenhouse, etc) to be included in the price at no charge. This should be in the last stage of negotiation.

10 Never buy from friends.

Gardens are to the fore in **Cheryl Taylor's** latest selection

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London: 15 Eyot Gardens, Chiswick, W6. Victorian terrace house in good condition, off Chiswick Mall, with front and rear gardens. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, three reception rooms, fitted kitchen and cloakroom. About £225,000 (John D. Wood, 071-727 0705).


Scotland: Arabella House, By Tain, Easter Ross, Rosshire. Grade B listed, 17th-century, stone-built country house in about 7½ acres of gardens and paddocks, and approached along a tree-lined drive. Eight bedrooms, three bathrooms (one en suite), four reception rooms, study, kitchen, breakfast-room, utility room and cloakroom. Garage and outbuildings. About £225,000 (Savills, 031-226 6961).


Wales: Dedwyddfa, Bryn Goodman, Ruthin, Clwyd. Substantial Victorian residence, near the ancient *market town of Ruthin, in three quarters* of an acre of lawned gardens, with mature trees. Six bedrooms, two bathrooms, three reception rooms, fitted kitchen/breakfast-room, cloakroom and cellars. Car port for three cars. About £225,000 *(Strutt & Parker, 0244 320747).*


Sussex: Glebe Cottage, Hastings Road, Northiam, Rye. Grade II listed detached thatched cottage in three quarters of an acre of landscaped gardens, with ornamental ponds and a swimming pool. Four bedrooms, bathroom, sitting/dining-room with inglenook fireplace, kitchen/breakfast-room, two cloakrooms, office. *Outbuildings. About £220,000* (GA Town & country, 0797 252366).

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Modern Furnished 3/4 bedrooms.
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Excellent location.
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KENT Georgian farmhouse. Unfurnished, 5 large bedrooms, CH. Beautiful location yet easy access A2. B.Rail. London 28 mls. Short lease. Refs req. Pets, stable /arabs. £600pcm. Tel: 0634 861176

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The evangelical nursery

Ruth Gledhill samples the enthusiasm at one of London's most popular churches



HOLY Trinity Brompton is known in the trade as HTB, rather as the Archbishop of Canterbury is the ABC. HTB is full of DCCs — deeply committed Christians — who have the effect of making ordinary Anglicans hesitate to call themselves Christian at all.

The church is the butt of frequent jokes and arouses hostility among those who fear its appeal. Yet Holy Trinity is one of the most popular and successful churches in London, overflowing with worshippers, and regularly "plants" or starts new congregations. Offshoots are thriving in Battersea, Kensington and nearby Onslow Square. There is barely room for the present number of Sunday worshippers, almost 1,500. Clergy are looking for another church in which to plant a new congregation.

We attended the informal evening service of worship and teaching, with a healing session at the end. Because it was the third Sunday of the month, we celebrated Communion. Hundreds of youthful, fresh-faced adherents, eyes gleaming with the light of salvation, raised their hands and danced to the rock beat that underlay nearly every hymn. Emotions ran high. One woman was sobbing before the service had even begun.

Eight television monitors posted above the wooden pews allowed even those of us hiding away at the back to see clearly every gesture of the vicar, Sandy Millar, who opened the service with prayers for all those going through difficult emotional experiences in families and the community. We prayed for peace, for the church and for its leader. We listened to a reading from St Paul's second letter to the Corinthians about how much God loves a cheerful giver. So far, it seemed relatively normal.

But then the drums and guitars were struck, we were urged to "get a little bit of rhythm going", and the service took off with four or five songs in quick succession.

It is easy to mock churches like Holy Trinity, but the sermon that ensued was one of the most effective I have heard. If all churches used the technique of curate Nicky Gumbel in canvassing for funds, the Church of England might not be in its present financial predicament. The collection plates had already gone round, so Mr Gumbel could let himself go without fear of resentment.

Like God issuing the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai, he listed ten powerful reasons for generous giving, alluding to biblical texts. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly." he warned. I began to regret my 50p in the collection. "Whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

He admitted a certain reluctance among clergy to speak about money at all. "We think if we talk about it, we will never see people again. But Jesus was not reluctant to talk about money."

His sermon evinced a feature common to most evangelical churches: having rejected the biblical criticism which has questioned the veracity of so many Christian texts, their clergy still treat what Jesus said as literal truth. "Generous giving transforms our characters," he said. "Generous giving meets genuine needs."

Holy Trinity has its own tabloid newspaper, *HTB in Focus*. The latest 12-page edition reports that sermons such as this, culminating in a "gift day", resulted in pledges amounting to £225,000. This will go towards the £250,000 refit of the church, which will involve replacing the pews with carpets and chairs. It will also help the £150,000 needed for the church's activities in the coming year.

We did not say a confession but prayed while Mr Millar confessed on our behalf.

For the Communion, the Anglican liturgy was reduced to its minimum. We did not kneel at the altar or drink from the cup but took Communion standing up, some dipping their wafer in the wine as we had been invited to do.

The formal part of the service was then closed, but we were asked to stand and open ourselves to "the spirit of God", the prelude to a healing ceremony. Mr Millar appealed for those in pain to come forward. At first, none responded. "There are a number of people here with pain in their chests," he said. "I just want to see if anyone responds to that. Anyone got a pain in their chest? Someone with a sharp pain in the back of the neck? Anyone here at all?"

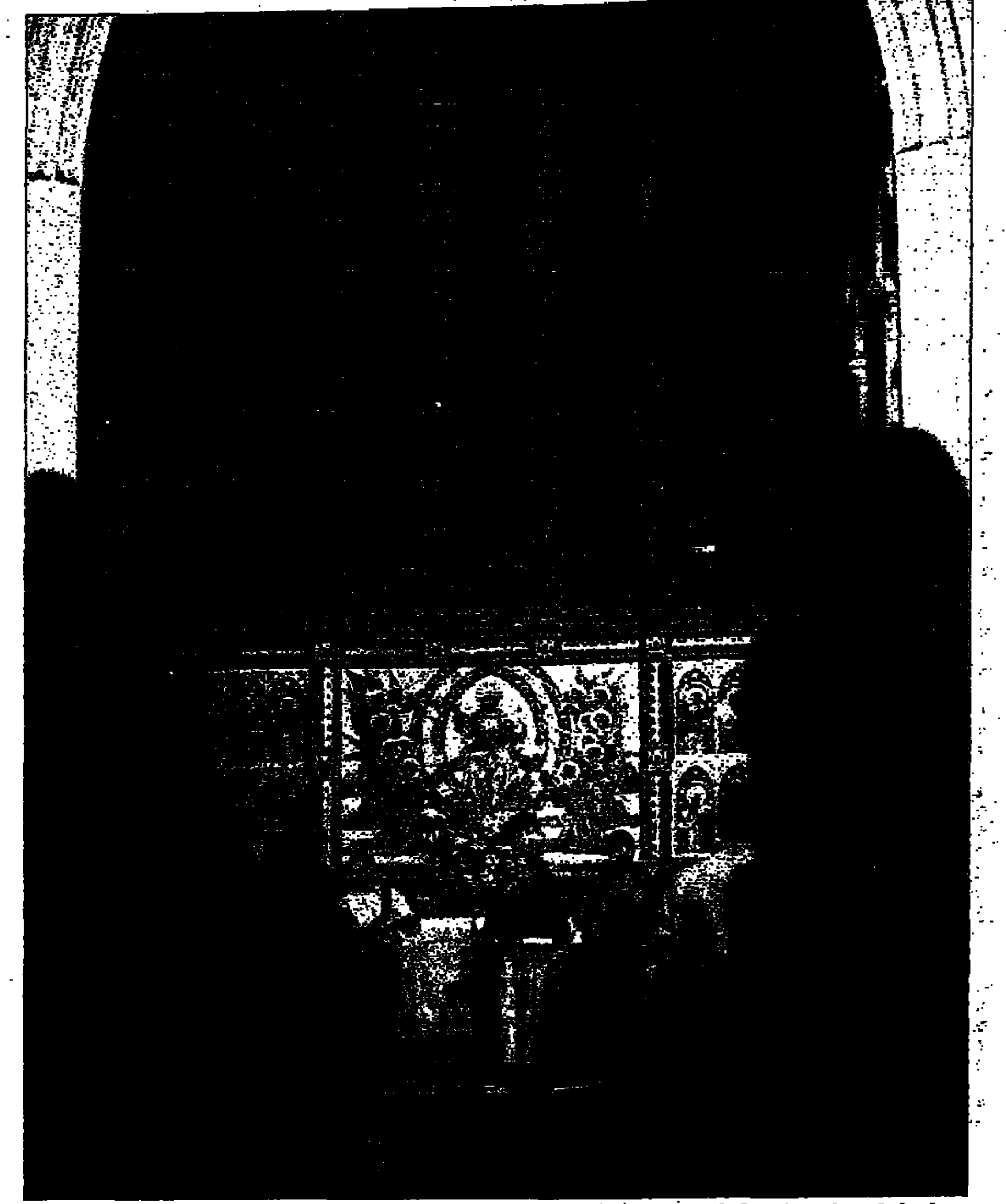
He moved on to tooth pains and marital problems. Those brave enough to venture to the front were prayed over and ministered to. The rest of us went to the crypt downstairs for goodbyes. We left, and I regretted only that he had not mentioned earache.

● *Sunday services: 9am traditional sung Communion: 11am informal worship and teaching, followed by healing: 6.30pm informal worship and teaching, with Communion on the third Sunday of the month and healing prayers at the end.*

Holy Trinity Brompton, Brompton Road, London SW7 1JA (071-581 8255)

VICAR: The Rev Sandy Millar
SERMON: Well-delivered biblical exposition on why God loves people who give lots of money away. ★★★★
ARCHITECTURE: Commissioners Gothic style, with an attractive Victorian interior which needs redecoration. The parochial church council is in the final throes of a scheme to remove the pews, which will open the church to wider use during the week.★★★
LITURGY: Barely evident, but what there was seemed to be adapted well from the modern material available in the Church of England, largely due to an injection of evangelical spirituality.★★
MUSIC: Rousing songs led by a Christian rock band. Enjoyable, but might seem startling to those more used to Hymns Ancient and Modern.★★★
AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Coffee and orange juice, but no tea. Youngsters chat among themselves, exuding post-service glow. Slightly isolating if you do not know anybody there.★★
★stars are awarded to a maximum of five

MARTIN BEDDALL



Getting into the swing: the youthful congregation at Holy Trinity is regaled with rock and rhythm

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AMUSING, intelligent, sexy man wanted for London dinner parties with zillions of single women. Tel 071 629 5834.

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ATTRACTIVE lady 51, 5'9" Anglophone West-Europe interested in nature arts current affairs laughter, seeks kind affectionate intelligent gentleman. Reply to Box No 1417

ATTRACTIVE bright Jewish divorcee liberal minded with academic background and good pedigree seeks similar soul mate 45-55. London area. Box 1587

BEAUTIFUL American ladies seek friendship, romance and marriage with British gentlemen! All ages! English Connection (Dept R), Suite 2, 24 Cecil Square, Margate, Kent. CT9 1BA. 0843-290735. As featured on Wogan, Where There's Life, Kilroy etc..

BUBBLY lady, cheerful & happy but a bit absent minded would love to meet intelligent & humorous male in late 50's early 60's to share laughter & small adventures. Box No 1565

C.LONDON - She: Well-travelled/ read/healed bluechip MA, successful professionally but relaxed, humorous, stylish, attractive, interested music, cinema, languages, tennis, swimming, walking. Seeking interesting He - an unattached intelligent Arts graduate, of wit and warmth, 50-62, for lively late Renaissance. Photo, if possible & letter Box No 1573

DO you enjoy the crafts and need someone special to share your fun with? Intelligent, professional female (51) and interesting. Not into dinner parties nor foreign travel. I'd rather spend my time with you in a workshop making things. I'm a woodturner - what are you? London SW/Surrey. Please Reply to Box No 1518

LADIES

FRAGRANT Fanny 55 y.o. would like to meet solid, confident n/s chap to put up shelves. Correction: For fun & romance. Photo appreciated but SOH more important. London area. Please Box No 1676 Pin No 6050

HAPPY HEDONIST attractive slim blonde, young 46, with fondness for good food & travel seeks successful n/s adventurous prof./businessman. Photo appreciated. Box No 1608

I'M seeking a special man 48-60ish n/s into antiques, music, sketching, steam trains, country living. Hants/Dorset. Box 1584

LONELY? Single? Over 50. Join our singles weekend house parties. Call Peter on 0255 85362.

LOVELY lady petite sociable intellectual needs cultured athletic prof man 40-55 Box 1537

NICE, intelligent, financially secure white American female wishes to meet nice, intelligent, financially secure white male aged 45-60. I will be visiting England this summer, please send letter & photo to Box 1546

PETITE blonde, warm, fun, educated 40+ Staffs. Wants to share laughter, affection and conversation with humorous, sincere man. Photo please. Reply to Box No 1542

PROF. very attractive female, adores horses. Seeks sincere prof. male 40-60. Pref. Suffolk /Cambridge but adores West Country. Photo app. Box 1533

PROFESSIONAL charming attractive interesting Indian lady would like to meet professional well travelled Public School educated English gentleman in his fifties with sense of humour. London area. Reply with photo to Box No 1586

RESPECTABLE Sx. lady seeks non smoking gent 40-50 yrs. old fashioned values. Box 1571

SCANDINAVIAN lady, ultimo forty, distinguished, creative, sporty, living in the middle of Europe, seeks gentleman. Please Reply with photo to Box No 1437

STUNNING blonde 35 slim well dressed seeks man for socialising friendship and romance. Please Reply to Box No 1580

THINKING man's crumpet. Are you one of the former wanting some of the latter? A very bright lady mid 40's svelte, sophisticated exterior, marshmallow inside, has a special vacancy in her life. For compatibility applicants should be worldly wise, polished, trim, solvent (even if only just) fallible, but above all prepared to be exasperated, exhilarated, exhausted (some of the time) and exclusively mine (all of the time) photo helpful. Please Reply to Box No 1598

TIRED of buying my own flowers, ex stewardess widow 40's, nursing background seeks prof male 48-60 pass pilot or medical prof would be ideal not ess. SOH to S.East Box No 1422

VERY special man required for caring professional lady & 10 year old daughter. Blonde bright & beautiful. Sense of humour essential. SW London. Please Reply to Box No 1603

LADIES

WEALTHY generous gentleman required to love and support luxury loving Rubenesque lady, forty several! N/s, SOH. Photo please. Box No 1356

YOU don't have to be in the fast lane to meet me, but preferably you'll be a self-assured warm humorous secure fitness conscious fifty-ish man, with an honest upfront attitude. Im a London based stylish trim divorced (n/c) mid 40's blonde. To check out all my weakness's & assets. Photo to Box No 1487

YOUNG active mid-50's lady, slim, considered attractive, wishes to meet unattached solvent, n/s genuine gentleman, same young vintage, for companionship to enjoy wide interests. W/London. Box 1582

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ARE you fun, youthful, beautiful, n/s girl with good SOH and nobody to share W/ends with? I am tall, healthy, successful aged 41 living in the Chilterns area. Please Reply to Box No 1562

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CENTRAL London successful businessman mid fifties seeks 40+ lady for romance fun international travel. Will respond to all, Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 1570

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INTERNATIONAL person based London wishes to share precious time with honest intelligent cultured daring lady young 47 (max). Optional commitment. Reply only if message clearly interpreted. Box 1563

JUST your average brainy curlar 35/45 for walk up 13,000' mountain California inJune with free ticket & ravishing musical lawyer, cheerful, extrovert, blissful crumbling Moorland house etc. Photo please to Box No 1569

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NEEDED professional caring mature unattached 40-50 lady to share Knightsbridge mews house with 56yr old prof. man in good nick! Objective love, affection, company, marriage. Appreciate photograph CV or letter. Reply to Box No 1541

PIG, 38, wants a pretty piglet to pamper and play with this summer, perhaps forever, in and around his Central London luxury pigsty. Photo and tel no please to Box No 1512

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ONE in a million. Distinguished Scandinavian gentleman, Chairman of International Company. (London based and with house also in South of France), seeks strikingly attractive lady, 37-50, with zest for life, who enjoys travelling, very stylish, elegant, cultured and with ambition for luxury and refinement - as travelling companion and hostess in connection with international negotiations and cultural excursions ... A certain artistic flair and intellectual interests would be appreciated together with a good knowledge of foreign languages. A sense of humour, warm sensuality, intelligence and imagination would in no way represent an obstacle to this mutually rewarding relationship in every respect. Write in the strictest confidence, enclosing photo. Please reply to Box No 1477

REALLY super chap 28 happy, successful, user-friendly, looking for a wife. Meaningful relationship optional. If you're intelligent, kind, independent and attractive, let's meet for some mutual positive vetting. Photo and covering letter please. No vagues. Box No 1578

SUCCESSFUL businessman fit energetic 49 5'10" charming witty widely travelled seeks 5'5"+ slim stylish non-smoking public school type education 35-42 feminine lady. Photo and tel no preferred. By replying you have nothing to lose and probably something to gain. London and within M25. Please Reply to Box No 1557

GENTLEMEN

WANTED lady 20-30 for intelligent conversation and genuine friendship by gentle man 55. Sth Hampshire. Box No 1446

WEALTHY Businessman, 40, single, Jewish, 5'9" graduate whose interests include skiing, travel (particularly the USA) etc seeks attractive, sexy, intelligent, younger female for long term relationship. Photo essential. Reply to Box No 1568

WEALTHY gentleman seeking pleasure loving lady looking to enjoy the good life. Aged 25/35, tall, slim & sensual. Please reply with photo to Box No 1419 Pin No 6045

WELL PRESERVED man 47, has visited Prasanthi Nilayam, with all that entails, seeks younger woman with similar commitment. Please Reply Box 1506

YANK writer caring, sharing, sporty seeks slim prof lady helpmate 34-44 liking humour, quiet eves. Bach, books, good friends. Write to Box No 1434

YOUNG late 50's, presentable, 5'11", comfortably solvent widower, educated, sporty, own hair and teeth, n/s, SOH, seeks presentable widow for fun and romance. N.Essex. Photo ensures reply. Box No 1581

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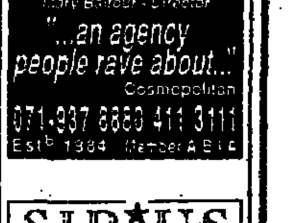
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THEATRE

LONDON

THE BEGGAR'S OPERA: RSC's London season reopens with John Caird's boisterous production from last year's Stratford. David Burt is the dashing highwayman.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Previews from Thurs, 7.15pm; opens April 7, 7pm; then in repertoire.

CHATSKY: Colin Firth dishes out the spleen as the horror of Griboyedov's bitter comedy. Clever staging of Anthony Burgess's translation though the play hardly lives up to its Russian reputation as a major classic.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

CITY OF ANGELS: Multi-award winning Broadway musical by Larry Gelbart and Cy Coleman, set in the world of 1940s private eye movies. With Roger Allam and Martin Smith, directed by Michael Blakemore.
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (071-839 5972). Previews eves, 7.30pm; opens Tues, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

CRAZY FOR YOU: Thrillingly staged new version of the Gershwin musical *Girl Crazy*. Exceptional entertainment value.
Prince Edward, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm.

CYRANO DE BERGERAC: Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

THE DEEP BLUE SEA: Penelope Wilton the victim of unsatisfactory men in Rattigan's well-staged but so old-fashioned drama. Directed by Karel Reisz and co-starring Linus Roache.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.



Josette Bushell-Mingo in From the Mississippi Delta

FROM THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA: The Talawa and Contact theatre companies present Dr Endesha Ida Mae Holland's inspiring civil rights story of a woman who refused to be beaten. With *Josette Bushell-Mingo*.
Cochrane, Southampton Row, WC1 (071-242 7040). Previews from Thurs, 7.30pm; opens Apr 6, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Apr 17, 22, 29, 2.30pm.

THE GIFT OF THE GORGON: Blazing performance by Judi Dench in combat with Michael Pennington in Peter Shaffer's RSC success tackling the themes of justice and terrible revenge.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST: Maggie Smith commands the brittle world of lost handbags in this elegant revival. With Alex Jennings, Richard E. Grant, Margaret Tyzack.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

INVADE MY PRIVACY: The tart and witty poems/songs of Fran Landesman brilliantly delivered around a dinner table by four performers and a three-piece band. A real tonic.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-748 3354). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 6pm and 8pm. Final week.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

MACBETH: Alan Howard plays the thane in Richard Eyre's production, with Anastasia Hills as Lady Macbeth.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Previews tonight, Mon-Wed, 7.15pm; opens Thurs, 7pm; then in repertoire.

NEW MORNING: Declan Hughes's new play for Dublin's sparkling Rough Magic company. Two sisters go on a camping weekend and the ghost of Elvis appears.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-637 8270). Previews Wed, Thurs, 8pm; opens Fri, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm.

NO MAN'S LAND: Paul Eddington and the author in tense, sharply comic Pinter. Riveting stuff.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL: A demanding wastrel son wreaks havoc on his family in St John Hankin's satirical 1905 comedy of manners.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Previews from Thurs, 7.45pm; opens April 6, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm. (No perfs April 9-12).

THE SCHOOL OF NIGHT: Peter Whelan's inventive and thrilling drama of Marlowe's last days: charismatic performance by Richard McCabe.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Previews from Wed, 7.15pm; opens April 6, 7pm; then in repertoire.

THREESOME: Triple bill from Gay Sweatshop: Claire Dowie's *Drag Act*, David Greenspan's excellent *Jack*, and Phyllis Nagy's *Entering Queens*.
Drill Hall, Chenies Street, WC1 (071-637 8270). Preview Tues, 7.30pm; opens Wed, 7.30pm; then Tues-Sat, 7.30pm.

TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT: John Wells, William Gaunt, Richard Kane and Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's cunning adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

REGIONAL

BIRMINGHAM: Rod Dungate's sell-out *Playing by the Rules*, where a 15-year-old runaway falls in with rent-boys, returns for a month before transferring to London.
Rep Studio, Centenary Square (021-236 4455). Opens Wed, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat (April 10, 17), 3.15pm.

EDINBURGH: After last year's *Merlin* comes *Merlin — The Search for the Grail*: vigorous spectacle bringing Guinevere and the Knights into the present day.
Royal Lyceum, Grindlay Street (031-229 9697). Free preview Thurs, 7.45pm; opens Fri, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3.15pm.

EDINBURGH: Elizabeth Elgoff's modern fairy-tale about love and sex, *The Swan*: a milkman, the woman he loves and a heavenly bird.
Traverse, Cambridge Street (031-228 1404). Tues-Sun, 8pm, mat Sun, 4pm.

LEEDS: The superhero of Richard Sparks's *The Crimson Lizard* is a psychiatric patient; his comic adventures are described as a cross between *Monty Python* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.
Courtyard, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Hill Mount (0532 442111). Previews tonight, Mon, 7.45pm; opens Tues, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat (April 3, 17), 4pm.

NOTTINGHAM: In Sandy Toksvig's intriguing *Big Night Out at Little Sands Picture Palace* she, Una Stubbs and Anita Dobson play usherettes in a doomed theatre where fantasies come true.
Playhouse, Wellington Square (0602 419419). Opens tonight, 7.30pm; Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat (April 17), 2.30pm.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON: Kenneth Branagh stars in Adrian Noble's long, often rewarding *Hamlet* (RST); and Simon Russell Beale's electrifyingly evil *Richard III* (Swan).
Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789 295623). Mon-Sat, 6.30pm, mats Wed (and April 21), 12.30pm, Sats, 12.30pm.
Swan Theatre (0789 295623). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 1.30pm.

FILM

CANDYMAN (18): Mythical serial killer snares Virginia Madsen in a decrepit Chicago housing estate. Silly stuff, with fancy trimmings. Director, Bernard Rose.
MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

CRUSH (15): Impressive, jolting New Zealand fable about sexual power games; a first feature from Alison Maclean. With Marcia Gay Harden, Donogh Rees, Caitlin Bossley.
Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) **Metro** (071-437 0757).

THE CRYING GAME (18): IRA gunman becomes obsessed with a hostage's girlfriend. Bold, powerful Neil Jordan film that falters at the close. Stars Stephen Rea, Forest Whitaker, Jaye Davidson, Miranda Richardson.
Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) **Plaza** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772).

THE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN (15): Eddie Murphy's conman makes hay in the US Congress. Tame comedy from a horribly smug star. Director, Jonathan Lynn.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366).

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT (PG): Robert Redford's hymn to family, nature and fly fishing. With Craig Sheffer, Brad Pitt, Tom Skerritt.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148).

SCENT OF A WOMAN (15): A blind army veteran visits New York with a prep school pup. Far too long, with a barnstorming star (Al Pacino) and just a few spots of magic. With Chris O'Donnell; director, Martin Brest.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12): Wonderful, melancholy portrait of French Baroque musician Sainte-Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle) and his pupil Marin Marais (Gérard and Guillaume Depardieu). Director, Alain Corneau.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865) **Minema** (071-235 4225).

WIND (PG): Carroll Ballard's visually luxurious but water-logged drama about the America's Cup race. With Matthew Modine.
Plaza (071-437 1234/ 497 9999).

WITTGENSTEIN: Derek Jarman's jaunty portrait of philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein excites the eye and stimulates the intellect. With Karl Johnson, Tilda Swinton.
ICA (071-930 3647).

EVENINGS OUT

DOCTOR DENNIS FARR, DIRECTOR OF THE COURTAULD INSTITUTE GALLERIES



❝ We went to see *The Deep Blue Sea* by Rattigan at the Almeida recently, and we thought it was a good, old-fashioned, well-made play [now on at the Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue until July]. Penelope Wilton plays a woman torn between a hopeless lover and a sort of noble upright chap, and the late Forties, early Fifties setting makes it a wonderful period piece. I'd like to see the new film of Virginia Wolfe's *Orlando*. It would be interesting to see how an atmospheric novel written in a style not far from stream of consciousness can be translated into film. On the arts side, "The Great Age of British Watercolours 1750-1880" [at the Royal Academy until April 12] is certainly a marvellous exhibition though the thematic structure of it is a little bit eccentric. There's an enormous amount of material there, so one really needs to go back again and again. I'm much looking forward to seeing "The Sixties" exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery [until June 13]. The breakdown between the various media was really taking off then, and art became more three-dimensional. But 1960s art is like anything else — some of it one likes, and some of it one thinks of as absolute rubbish . . . ❞



On the razzle: (l to r) Stubbs, Toksvig and Dobson from Big Night Out at Little Sands Picture Palace (see Theatre)

Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

FOREVER YOUNG (PG): Test pilot frozen for 50 years awakes and searches for true love. *Endearing, old-fashioned fantasy*; with Mel Gibson, Jamie Lee Curtis. Director, Steve Miner.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

INDOCHINE (12): Love in a hot climate. A trite plot, but Catherine Deneuve and gorgeous images carry the day. Director, Régis Wargnier.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

HOFFA (15): A star turn by Jack Nicholson as a labour leader with mob connections, but a dull David Mamet script. Director, Danny DeVito.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

HOWARDS END (PG): Absorbing version of E.M. Forster's novel about two colliding families with different ideals. With Anthony Hopkins, Emma Thompson, Helena Bonham-Carter. Director, James Ivory.
Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661) **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772).

KNIFE IN THE WATER (PG): Gripping psychological games on a small sailing boat. Welcome revival of Polanski's first (and last) Polish feature, made in 1962.
Renoir (071-837 8402).

LEON THE PIG FARMER (15): Jewish lad discovers his embarrassing pedigree. Exuberant if silly British comedy. Stars Mark Frankel, Brian Glover; directors, Vadim Jean, Gary Sinyor.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

MALCOLM X (15): Spike Lee's ambitious epic. Denzel Washington is solid as the black activist, but prickly issues get sidestepped.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

ORLANDO (PG): Virginia Woolf's exuberant novel about a free spirit (Tilda Swinton) who lives for 400 years, changing sex en route; filmed with great aplomb by British director Sally Potter.
Gate (071-727 4043) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366).



Leading light: Catherine Deneuve from Indochine

MUSIC

CLASSICAL

IN TUNE? 2: For the second year running the percussionist and composer James Wood has organised a weekend festival dedicated to music exploring microtonality — the use of intervals smaller than a semi-tone. Among the composers featured in the remaining concerts today and tomorrow (St Giles Cripplegate, tonight 7.30pm, 9.30pm; tomorrow 7.30pm) are Ives, Lutoslawski, and Xenakis. There is also an open forum on Recent Trends in Microtonality (tomorrow at 5pm, admission free).
Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, London, EC2 (071-638 8891).

STRING QUARTETS PLUS: In an appealing programme given under the auspices of the PLG Young Artists Concerts series, the Duke Quartet combine the premiere of a quartet by Tomas Simaku with Kevin Volans's quirky, African-influenced *Hunting Gathering*, before the pianist Scott Mitchell joins them for a performance of Shostakovich's great Quintet.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), Mon, 8pm.

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA: John Eliot Gardiner, ever more reluctant to be seen as an early music specialist, conducts a curious programme that places Mozart's Piano Concerto in B flat, K595 (with Maria João Pires the pianist), between two works by Britten: the Spring Symphony, and Act II, Scene 1 of *Gloriana*. Anthony Rolfe-Johnson, Catherine Robbin and Alison Hagley are among the vocal soloists. The Monteverdi Choir and the choristers of Salisbury Cathedral complete the formidable forces.
Festival Hall (as above), Wed, 7.30pm.

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Soprano Elzbieta Szmytka, contralto Florence Quivar and bass John Connell join the CBSO and CBSO chorus for a programme of Busoni ("Sarabande" and "Cortège" from *Dr Faustus*), Bartók (*The Miraculous Mandarin*), Sibelius (Symphony No 7) and Szymanowski (*Stabat Mater*). Simon Rattle conducts.
Symphony Hall, Birmingham (021-212 3333), Tues, 7.30pm.
Festival Hall, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), Thurs, 7.30pm.

OPERA

FIDELIO: Adolf Dresen's production, not greatly admired when it was first seen at Covent Garden in 1990, returns in a restaged version by Patrick Young. A strong cast includes Josephine Barstow as Leonore, Josef Protschka as Florestan, Kurt Rydl as Rocco and Willard White as Pizarro. Jeffrey Tate conducts.
Royal Opera House, London, WC2 (071-240 1066/1911), Tues, Fri, 7.30pm.

ROCK

SUZANNE VEGA: Following the success of her latest album, *99.9F*, the beguiling singer-songwriter embarks on a 14-date UK tour.
Poole, Arts Centre (0202 685222), Thurs, 7pm. **Cambridge**, Corn Exchange (0223 357851), Fri, 6.45pm.

THE KINKS: The elder statesmen of English rock are about to release a confident new album, *Phobia*, showing off the undiminished songwriting skills of Ray and Dave Davies.
Glasgow, Barrowlands (041-552 4601), today, 7.30pm. **Nottingham**, Royal Concert Hall (0602 482626), tomorrow, 7pm. **London**, The Grand (071-738 9000), Mon, 7pm.

DEACON BLUE: Having been off the scene for a couple of years the pop-rockers have had two hit singles in quick succession and are now touring to promote their infectious new album, *Whatever You Say, Say Nothing*.
Edinburgh, Ingliston R.H.C. (031-333 3036), Thurs, 6.30pm. **Glasgow**, Barrowlands (041-552 4601), Fri, next Sat and Sun, 7.30pm.

THE JAYHAWKS: The start of a welcome tour for the Minneapolis band with the rootsy, country blues sound.
Mean Fiddler, London, NW10 (081-961 5490), Fri, 8pm.

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN: Soon to release a new album, *Bruce Springsteen in Concert — MTV Unplugged*, the Boss returns for three shows. After Scotland this week, he is at Sheffield Arena (April 15) and the Bowl, Milton Keynes (May 22).
S.E.C.C., Glasgow (031-557 6969), Wed, 6.30pm.

JAZZ

THE WESTBROOK TRIO: The innovative Westbrooks have various appearances in different line-ups planned for 1993. In their trio, the husband and wife team of Mike (on piano) and Kate (singing) are joined by long-time collaborator Chris Biscoe on saxophone.
Arts Centre, York (0904 627129), today, 7pm.

REBIRTH BRASS BAND: *These New Orleans musicians have borrowed from a great tradition to come up with a revitalised brass band sound alive with influences from hip-hop to reggae.*
Perth, Salutation Hotel (0738 21818), today, 7.30pm. **London**, Jazz Cafe (071-916 6000), Mon and Tues, 7pm.

AHMAD JAMAL: The soulful American pianist, much admired by Miles Davis, appears with drummer Yoron Israel and bassist John Heard in a tight trio.
The Union Chapel, London, N1 (071-916 2200), Thurs, 7.30pm.

DANCE

RUDRA BEJART BALLET LAUSANNE: A love of cinema is the motivation behind Maurice Béjart's current London season. *Opéra*, which looks at social, *political and religious aspects of life* in Italy, was inspired by the films of Pier Paolo Pasolini; while the films of Fritz Lang set the tone for Béjart's staging of Bartók's *The Miraculous Mandarin*. On Friday the programme changes to include *Mr C*, a 90-minute ramble through the life of Charlie Chaplin.
Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London, EC1 (071-278 8916), today, 7.30pm, Mon to next Sat, 7.30pm.

CARACALLA DANCE COMPANY: Shakespeare comes in many forms, but none so unusual as an Arab version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. This Beirut-based company fuses modern dance with oriental and folk styles to create a colourful and fast-moving production.
Royalty Theatre, Portugal Street, London, WC2 (071-494 5090), today, 7.30pm.

SPRING LOADED: Some of the most promising items in this annual festival of contemporary dance have been saved for last. Tonight Laurie Booth presents a new show created in collaboration with the sculptor Anish Kapoor, while on Tuesday two of the most popular dance companies in the country, the all-female Cholmondeleys and all-male Featherstonehaughs, join forces in a new work by choreographer Lea Anderson, *Precious*.
Laurie Booth: Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), today, tomorrow, 7.45pm. **Cholmondeleys:** The Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Road, London, WC1 (071-387 0031), Tues to April 10, 8pm.

EXHIBITIONS

LONDON

HOCKNEY ON GRIMM: In the 1960s David Hockney made three important series of etchings, *A Rake's Progress 1961-63*, *The Cavafy Illustrations* (1966) and his illustrations for *Grimm's Fairytales* (1969). The new South Bank Centre touring exhibition concentrates on his bizarre reflections on the Brothers Grimm's ruthless fairy-tale world. After the London showing it will go all over Britain.
Festival Hall (Level 5 Foyer), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 3002). Daily, 10am-10.30pm, Thurs to May 9.

GEORGES ROUAULT — THE EARLY YEARS: Brothel scenes, grotesquely satirical images of law courts recalling Daumier, and brilliantly coloured Fauve landscapes were all part of the artist's surprising early repertoire.
Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 (071-439 7438). Daily, 10am-6pm, until June 6.

GEORGES BRAQUE — PRINTS: Braque produced prints of various kinds, starting with a series of Cubist etchings, but he really *concentrated on print-making* only after 1945, when he started to make lithograph and intaglio prints, producing some of his most familiar images in this way.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-821 1313). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2-5.50pm, until June 27.

TRADITION AND REVOLUTION IN FRENCH ART: This show representing a collection — that of the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Lille, temporarily closed for refurbishment — gives a very fair idea of the cross currents in French art between 1700 and 1880. Included are some familiar works such as Delacroix's *Medea* and David's *Belisarius* but the exhibition's strength is in fine works by painters little known in this country, such as the symbolist Jean-Charles Cazin and the realist Luc-Olivier Merson.
National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (071-839 3321). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm (Wed to 8pm), Sun, midday-6pm, until July 11.

THE SIXTIES: The 1960s London art scene immediately calls up a host of images: psychedelic colours, neo-Art Nouveau, Op Art and Bridget Riley, Pop Art and David Hockney, the extravagant styles of Carnaby Street. It is all here, along with some neglected art rediscovered, such as that of Pauline Boty, who died young.
Barbican Art Gallery, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-588 9023). Mon, Wed-Sat, 10am-6.45pm, Tues, 10am-5.45pm, Sun, midday-6.45pm, until June 13

REGIONAL

RECENT BRITISH SCULPTURE: Drawn from the purchases of the Arts Council over the last 11 years, this South Bank touring show celebrates the achievements of the generation of sculptors who came to international prominence during the 1980s such as Tony Cragg, Richard Deacon, Antony Gormley, Alison Wilding and Bill Woodrow. Also included are younger artists such as Anish Kapoor and Cathy de Monchaux.
Derby Museum & Art Gallery, Strand, Derby (0332 255586). Tues-Sat, 10am-5pm, Mon, 11am-5pm, Sun, 2-5pm, today to May 9.

PANORAMIC VIEWS OF ST PETERSBURG: The development of Peter the Great's new Russian capital must be among the best recorded of all the world's major cities. The evidence includes a whole series of panoramic prints ranging in date from 1716 to 1835, which give a blow-by-blow account of the city's expansion. Particularly notable are the hand-coloured prints made by the Swede Benjamin Patersson.
Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street, Oxford (0865 278000). Tues-Sat, 10am-4pm, Sun 2-4pm, until May 9.

ROY LICHTENSTEIN: Still thought of as the daring young man who rode to fame on the strip cartoon redefined as high art, Lichtenstein in the last 30 years turned into a grand old man of American painting. His irresistible rise is chronicled in an imposing retrospective.
Tate Gallery Liverpool, Albert Dock, Liverpool (051-709 0507). *Tues-Sun, 10am-6pm, until* April 18.

NEW VIDEOS

8½ (Connoisseur, 15): Fellini's dazzling autobiographical fantasia, a complex web of flashbacks and dreams. With Marcello Mastroianni as the director's surrogate, and a bewitching Nino Rota score. 1963.

INTO THE WEST (Entertainment Video, PG): Two gypsy kids ride a mysterious white horse into western Ireland. A wayward but engaging tale, ideal for older children. With Gabriel Byrne, Ellen Barkin. Director, Mike Newell. 1992.

A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN (20:20 Vision, PG): Boisterous salute to wartime's all-girl baseball teams, with a winning cast but a few too many script banalities. With Geena Davis, Tom Hanks and, inconsequentially, Madonna. Director, Penny Marshall. 1992.

PHANTOM OF LIBERTY (Electric, 15): Buñuel's penultimate film offers one daft thing after another, concluding with a staring ostrich. Childish at times, but it's hard not to warm to the satirical jabs at society's hypocrisies and phobias. 1974.

BOOKINGS

KODO DRUMMERS: The disciplined percussionists, who live a Utopian-style of life on the Japanese island of Sado, perform a dramatic, ritualistic music evoking the emotional and spiritual power of the drum. The group last visited Britain in 1990.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916). May 5-9, May 11-15. Daily, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm.

ALTERNATIVE VIENNA: The Philharmonia's new series explores the sound world of Viennese composers Kurt Schwertsik and H.K. Gruber, both considered to be anti-establishment and anti-academic figures from the new Viennese movement.
South Bank, London, SE1 (071-928 8800). April 15, 17, 24, 26-28, 30, May 6. Buy two tickets for two concerts and pay the next price down.

BRIAN MAY: *Currently on tour* in American with Guns N Roses, the former Queen guitarist will headline his own tour in June, performing songs from throughout his career including material off the album *Back to the Light*.
Edinburgh, Playhouse (031-557 2590), June 4. **Whitley Bay**, Ice Rink (091-252 6240), June 5. **Glasgow**, Barrowlands (031-557 6969), June 6. **Manchester**, Apollo (061-236 9922), June 8. **Sheffield**, City Hall (0742 735295), June 9. **Cardiff**, Ice Rink (0222 224488), June 11. **Birmingham**, NEC (021-782 0000), June 12. **London**, Brixton Academy (071-326 1022), June 15.



Brian May: to headline his own tour this summer

KIROV BALLET: The company is returning to London this summer for a five-week season. The attraction of the 200-strong St Petersburg company is the new repertoire it will bring to Britain: Oleg Vinogradov, artistic director, is planning to present the original Lavrovsky *Romeo and Juliet* and the original Maryinsky Theatre production of *La Bayadère*. Rounding off the season will be the ubiquitous *Swan Lake* and the high camp of *Le Corsaire*.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161), June 29-July 31.

NIKOLAI DEMIDENKO: The Russian virtuoso will play Chopin's First Piano Concerto as part of the Philharmonia's National Power-sponsored "World Piano Series". Heinrich Schiff makes his conducting debut with the orchestra in Rossini's overture *William Tell* and Dvořák's Eighth Symphony.
Festival Hall (as above). April 14, 7.30pm.

Film: Geoff Brown; **Theatre:** Jeremy Kingston; ***Classical Music and Opera:*** Ian Brunskill; **Rock and Jazz:** Stephanie Osborne; **Dance:** Debra Craine; **Exhibitions:** John Russell Taylor; **New Videos:** Geoff Brown; **Bookings:** Kari Knight

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 20

RECOND
(b) To put off, dispense with, to put away, set apart, from the Latin *recondere*: "Figs put in an oven, and whil'st hot imposed in their own leaves and reconded in a pot."

STILB
(a) A unit of luminance equal to one candela per square centimetre, from the Greek *stilbein* to glitter: "The names *phot* and *stilb* were coined by Blondel (1921) and are in general use on the Continent."

MIR
(b) A village community in pre-revolutionary Russia. Also attributively. From the Russian word, 1878: "The Mir system may be summed up in a few words: it has simply caused the peasant to exchange the domination of his old master for the more grinding tyranny of many masters."

FEDAI
(b) A devotee, zealot, one who risks his life in a cause, = just about an assassin, from the Persian *fidāʾī*, plural *fidāʾīyān*: "When the sheikh required the services of any of them, the selected fedais were intoxicated with hashish."

THE TIMES
Auctions Diary

EAST

WILLIAM H BROWN COLCHESTER 11-14 East Hill, Colchester, Essex, CO1 2QX. Tel: 0206 868070. Monday 5th April Silver, porcelain, jewellery. Tuesday 6th April. Antiques & General. on 1,00. Tues 10.

SUFFOLK SALES, Church Street, Clare. 0787 277993. Antiques & Chattels. Sat 3rd April. 11am - viewing Friday 5pm to 9pm and Saturday from 9am.

HOME COUNTIES

AMERSHAM AUCTION ROOMS Station Road, Amersham HP7 0AH. Tel: 0494 729292. Antiques & Collectables. at April 10.30 am.

BROWN & MERRY (Brook St, Tring, Herts, HP23 5EF. Tel: 044282 6446. Antique & general furniture & effects. Sat April 3rd 10.00am (Cattle Market).

CHANCELLORS, London Road, Kingston, Surrey 081 541 4139. Thursday 1st April 11.00am. Viewing Wednesday 2-8pm. General Auction.

SOUTH BUCKS AUCTIONS, Church Rooms, Old Amersham 0494 727758. Antique & Collectors April 17th 1pm. 5% commission to sell, retain advert.

GE SWORDER & SON 15, Northgate End, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM23 2ET. Tel: 0279 651388. Antique & Household furniture every Thursday at 11am: Antique furniture, ceramics & pictures Tuesday 20th April.

LONDON

PHILLIPS - More Sales More Places. For details telephone (071) 629 6602 ext 320.

BONHAMS KNIGHTSBRIDGE, Montpelier Street, SW7 1HH Tel: 071 584 9161. 30 Mar Silver 11am, 31 Mar Clocks, Watches & Barometers 11am. 1 Apr Modern & Contemporary Pictures 2pm, Apr Pens 11am.

BONHAMS CHELSEA 65/69 Lots Road, SW10 0RN Tel: 071 351 7111. 29 Mar Silver 2pm, 30 Mar Furniture 10.30am, 31 Mar Pictures 11am, 31 Mar Glass & Ceramics 2pm, 1 Apr Frames 2pm.

CRITERION SALEROOMS 53 Essex Road, London N1 Tel: 071 359 5707 Sale of Antiques every Monday 6.00pm. On View Friday 4pm - 8pm, Saturday 11am - 3pm, Sunday 11am - 3pm Monday From 10am.

DOWELL LLOYD & CO 118 Putney Bridge Road, London SW15 2NQ. Tuesday 30th March Tel: 081 788 7777. Jewellery. 9.30. Viewing 29th March until 4pm.

DOWELL LLOYD & CO 118 Putney Bridge Road, London SW15 2NQ. Saturday 3rd April Tel: 081 788 7777. Furniture & Collectables 9.30. Viewing Friday 2nd April 9.30 until 7pm.

LONDON PICTURE CENTRE 18 Crawford St, London. W1V 1PH. Tel: 071 487 2895. Reproduction prints, oils and mirrors. Every Friday 12.00.

LONDON

LOTS ROAD GALLERIES (71 Lots Road, Chelsea, London SW10 0RN) Two auctions every Monday. 2pm: Contemporary and Reproduction Furnishings and 6pm: Antique Furniture, Oriental Rugs, Pictures. Viewing Fri. 10-4, Sat 10-1, Sun. 10-4, Mon 10-6. Tel: 071 351 7771.

NORTH

PHILLIPS - More Sales More Places. For details telephone (091) 477 6688.

WILKINSON & BEIGHTON Woodhouse Green, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S.Yorks S66 9AQ. Mon 29 March. Tel: 0709 700005. Fax: 0709 700244. Antique & later furniture & effects. 11.00.

WILKINSON & BEIGHTON Woodhouse Green, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S.Yorks S66 9AQ. Mon 5th April. Tel: 0709 700005 Fax: 0709 700244. Reproduction pottery, garden furn etc. 11.00.

SCOTLAND

PHILLIPS - More Sales More Places. For details telephone (031) 225 2266.

SOUTH

PHILLIPS - More Sales More Places. For details telephone (0732) 740310.

WEST

PHILLIPS - More Sales More Places. For details telephone (0225) 310609.

BRUTON KNOWLES, Albion Chambers, 111 Eastgate Street, Gloucester GL1 1PZ 0452 521267. 18th century, Regency and Victorian furniture, Oil Paintings, Water colours, Miniatures and Silhouettes. Venue: The Tithe Barn, Southam near Cheltenham. 10.30am. Sale Day Tuesday, 6th April 1993. View days 3 & 5 April from 10am-4pm

HALL FINE ART AUCTIONS, Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury. - We are currently accepting goods for our spring sale on Friday 14th May, if you would like advice concerning entering items into auction or for free pre-sale estimate please ring Richard Allen or Robert Miller on (0743) 231212 day or (074 634) 272 eve.

RAWLE FINE ART (Melville House, 12 Middle Street, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 1SH. Tel: 0823 324983) Tuesday 30th March. Sporting items (North Petherton Rugby Club).

RUSSELL BALDWIN & BRIGHT Rydends Rd, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 8NZ. Fine Art Sale of approx 1000 lots. 7th & 8 April 10am 0568 611166.

SEMLEY AUCTIONEERS (Station Road, Semley, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 9AN. Tel: 0747 851272) Saturday 27th March Antiques and general effects. 11.00.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Auctions, Croptborne, Nr Pershore, Worcestershire (0386) 554031 Saturday 3rd April 1993 11.00am Viewing 9.00am. Antique furniture & effects - contents of Country House.

The artful Doge of early music

Stephen Pettitt meets Paul McCreesh, who has found success with his reconstructions of Renaissance Venetian ceremonial music



Paul McCreesh: "In Venice you have this correlation of every art form: pictures, liturgy and music"

Much to the surprise of his then record company, in 1990 Paul McCreesh's reconstruction, with his Gabrieli Consort, of the service for the extravagant Doge Martin Grimani's coronation in 1595 captivated record-buyers and many of the critics, carrying off a number of awards. The plaudits were deserved. The disc succeeded in capturing the full splendour of the Venetian ritual, and contained some marvellous music by the generation of Gabrieli into the bargain.

But then McCreesh fell victim of the transfer of Virgin Classics' ownership to EMI. Undeterred, he took his players and singers back to Brinkburn Priory, whose acoustics had served the earlier recording so well, and recorded another reconstruction, of the First Vespers for the Annunciation, as it might have been celebrated in San Marco on March 24 (the traditional anniversary date for the founding of Venice), 1643. This time the tapes were sold to Deutsche Grammophon; McCreesh was given an exclusive contract.

The record (DG Archiv 437 552-2, two discs) has just hit the shops; and again it is a fine one, full of exciting choral and solo singing and rich wind (both brass and wooden) and strings (both plucked and bowed). Much of the music is virtually unknown.

Most prominent among the less familiar composers is one Giovanni Antonio Rigatti. He contributes two psalm settings as well as a splendid "Magnificat" and a gorgeous "Salve Regina": one of the non-liturgical *motets customarily included* in Venice's most lavish services.

McCreesh's attention was drawn to Rigatti by Jerome Roche, a specialist in Italian music of this period. "When I looked at his music," says McCreesh, "Rigatti came across as a guy doing something quite different from anyone else. In some ways he's a bit of an amateur composer, because on paper it looks slapdash. But it works in performance. He's a very free composer."

That is attested by the examples here. The thrilling "Dixit Dominus", for instance, climaxes in a mellifluous Gloria for two sopranos and, later, an eerily beautiful high male falsettist; while in the lovely, gently lilting "Nisi Dominus" a simple four-note ground bass, *à la* Purcell, underpins ravishing lines sung by two falsettists (David Hurley and Timothy Wilson) and a baritone (Peter Harvey), with a pair of violins for good measure.

The tessitura of the falsetto parts is spectacularly high — castrato roles if ever there were. "I had a long discussion with DG about how to bill those singers. I couldn't call them countertenors because the historical connotations are incorrect. But I think we've got a fabulous sound."

A reconstructed service such as this does not pretend to recreate what actually happened in terms of repertoire. McCreesh has mixed and matched what is available, achieving telling contrasts of the intimate and grandiose, of exuberant celebration and private devotion. He mixes plainchant (just a few minutes' worth) and polyphony, purely instrumental music — there is a lovely sonata by *Biagio Marini for three violins — and* vocal music. The effect is like a ceremonial opera.

"You have to remember that the cross-fertilisation of musicians between opera houses and churches was important. Take Cavalli, for instance." (Cavalli's "Lauda Jerusalem", with its joyfully sprung syncopations, is another work recorded here.) "He held various posts at St Mark throughout his working life but wrote all those operas.

"There was a constant exchange of singers between theatre and church. Actually I feel these services are rather like the Wagnerian *Gesamtkunstwerk*, because in Venice in particular you have this correlation of every art form: pictures, liturgy and music."

The singing has a pleasant edge as well as a certain openness about it. "I try", says McCreesh, "to get English singers to produce their voices in such a way that they are exciting the upper partials and making a more Italianate or continental sound."

But is there not a danger of caricaturing what is genuinely Italianate? "The danger is that we usually don't go far enough. That's symptomatic of complacency, which is the basic problem with early music in this country. England's the easiest country in the world to get an acceptable performance, but the hardest country in the world to get a good performance.

"I also feel there's still something undernourished about a lot of English string playing." McCreesh aims to address that shortcoming in a project he has in mind to form a new top-notch baroque orchestra.

Sharper ears might notice the absence of bowed string bass among the continuo group. "We're very keen on basic historical things like that. It's probably anachronistic to use a string bass, even in much later music than this. We use three or four chitarrones and two harps to provide a bedrock of plucked sound, and I'm quite happy occasionally not to use the organ with plucked instruments. That works quite well with voices. The style, I hope, is a mixture of English elegance and continental spirit."

RECORD REVIEWS

Bold brass and Ray recollected

JAZZ

Long live the brass band. In jazz it used to be regarded as a quaint relic of old-time New Orleans: just the thing to keep the tourists entertained on Bourbon Street, but hardly likely to inspire excitement among young players. Much has changed in the past decade and a half, thanks in part to the efforts of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band, an extraordinary act whose members see nothing wrong in splicing together bebop and James Brown.

The musicians of the **Re-Birth Brass Band** are slightly more rough-hewn, yet every bit as hip and self-confident. Though studio recordings can never quite do justice to this brand of partying — the perspiration and the carnival ambience are hard to convey on disc — *Take It To The Street* (Rounder CD-2115) still makes a seductive package.

The producer Ron Levy has, wisely, not attempted to smooth out all the ragged edges in the ensemble work. Philip Frazier's sousaphone punches out the bass lines as the group rumble through Herbie Hancock's pioneering jazz-funk epic "Chameleon". A mock funeral dirge prefaces a jaunty version of the Steel Pulse tune "Steppin' Out", including cheery raggamuffin vocals.

There are no superstar soloists here — collective improvisation takes first priority. Even so, the band generates more energy and a greater sense of spontaneity than most conventional, well-drilled orchestras you may care to mention.

Give **Ray Charles** the dreariest song ever written and he will do his damnedest to set it alight. He needs all his powers of persuasion on *My World* (Warner 7599-26735-2), an awkward attempt to get on down with the nightclubbers. The venture bears all the state-of-the-art production trappings; in the process Charles's inimitable gravelly voice is reduced to just another element in the dance mix. And, with the exception of Leon Russell's "A Song For You" and Paul Simon's "Still Crazy After All These Years", the material is eminently forgettable.



Ray Charles: his 1960s hits still sound good

He is on safer ground in the mid-price compilation *Living Legend* (Arcade ARC94642) which contains 40 tracks from his peak period of popularity in the 1960s. Not the most original album title, but a sound, middle-of-the-road selection ranging from "Georgia On My Mind" to "Eleanor Rigby". It goes without saying that the grittier stuff is still to be found on the earlier recordings made for Atlantic.

CLIVE DAVIS

Price worth paying

Leontyne Price was highly selective about the roles she sang on stage. If a part did not suit she dropped it quickly. Covent Garden, alas, heard her as only two heroines: Aida and the *Trovatore* Leonora. But in the studios adventure took over and she tackled arias from the whole of the soprano repertory.

RCA's substantial issue **Leontyne Price: Prima Donna Collection** (09026 61236 2, four CDs) has her singing, with varying results, everything from Gilda's "Caro nome" to the *Liebestod* from *Tristan*. The compilation has been drawn from recital discs, some not previously released here, made under different conductors and with different orchestras between 1967 and 1979.

The earliest tracks, with Molinari-Pradelli and the RCA Italiana Orchestra, mostly found on CD 1, are the best. There are reminders that Price was not only a great Verdian but an outstanding Mozart singer — Karajan brought her to Salzburg early in her career for Donna Anna. The creaminess of her soprano suited Meyerbeer and Massenet equally, to say nothing of Samuel Barber's *Vanessa*.

There are a few items which do not bear second hearing, but this Price collection is a worthy reflection of a great voice which was heard too seldom outside her regular house, the Met.

Two other issues this month show Price at the opposite ends of her career. **A Programme of Song** (RCA 09026 61499 2, one CD) was recorded in New York in 1959 when the voice was at its freshest. Strauss and Wolf flow effortlessly and emphasise that her early training was in Lieder. **Deutsche Grammophon's *La forza del destino*** (Laserdisc 072 427-1 and video 072 427-3 only) catches Leontyne Price in her penultimate year at the Met, where Leonora was one of her most celebrated roles.

She begins cautiously, acting little and concentrating on getting notes which do not always arrive easily. But the closing scene of the opera shows Price at her most majestic, shaping Verdi in a way few other sopranos have equalled. There is fervent support from Giuseppe Giacomini (Alvaro), Leo Nucci (Carlo) and, especially, James Levine in the pit. But John Dexter's sombre production does not film well.

JOHN HIGGINS

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The house that tack built

"Robert Key, the National Heritage under-secretary, has announced that he wants stronger powers to dissuade people from messing up the streetscape with their house alterations — particularly with windows, doors and kind stone cladding. Key, who lives in picturesque Salisbury, has fought shy of legislation; instead, he wants planning authorities to get tougher on character-destroying alterations, mainly in conservation areas — but he speaks for that caucus of people which sniggers at "Kentucky fried doors" and makes fun of the Texas Homecare carriage-lamp brigade . . ."

Hugh Pearman, on the national pastime of house-bodging — in The Culture tomorrow

THEATRE: Vivid but incredible Spanish passion from Lorca; a matter-of-fact *Macbeth*

Pain and grief beyond belief

Blood Wedding
Lyric, Hammersmith

When faced with Lorca's menagerie of troubled women I suspect that the Snow Queen must have chucked a splinter of glass into my heart which all my tears of laughter will not wash out of me. Spanish literature might benefit from a new Cervantes to send Doña *Quixote off in search of a man* like a bull, like a mountain, like a carnation, dahlia and sunflower — epithets drawn from *Blood Wedding* — while loyal Anna Panza trudges in her wake, trying to bring her mistress to reason.

The reasonable view of life is not everything, nor anywhere near enough to express the range of our feelings for the joys and grief life offers, but Lorca's middle-class women never persuade me that they *exist. The Mother in this play* kneads dough, talks about vineyards, marriage and the deaths of most of her menfolk. Certainly she has suffered more than the average allotment of woe, but the bleak intensity of her speech keeps lurching the character into unintended comedy.

This is not the fault of Frances Tomelty, who took over the role at very short notice and in her closing description of a knife sliding *through startled flesh makes* the poetry sing. It is in the prosaic lines, and in phrases enclosing a single image, that the lurches occur. When the Mother says of her future daughter-in-law, "My son will cover her well, he's of good seed," the disconcerting link is to *Kind Hearts and Coronets* where the duke is about to marry a fat lump because "She litters well."

Odyssey Theatre has collaborated with a flamenco company, *Cumbre Flamenca, to* give authenticity to the dances and songs. These are striking when the girls stamp their way forward to a floor-level lamp and their giant shadows climb the far wall, but an English translation should have been made: leaving them in Spanish reduces them to exotic decor.

Nigel Jamieson's direction uses lighting well in several scenes and gives a good sense of anxious bustle at the wedding. *In the role of the Bride,* who escapes from her decent but dull husband (Alex Richardson) for a swarthier lover, Rosalind Bennett traces a persuasive ascent from depressed conformity to uninhibited sensuality. There is surging animal excitement in the way she clambers up Patrick O'Kane's body.

But elsewhere the drama fails to surge. The choreography that Siobhan Stanley is given to dance as the Moon *lacks chill and menace, while* Death, though well spoken by Di Sherlock, wears a big, white hat that makes her look like a medieval memsahib setting off after her crusader husband: like this famous play, vivid but incredible.

JEREMY KINGSTON

DONALD COOPER



Death (Di Sherlock): "like a medieval memsahib"



Is this a moral dilemma I see?

Macbeth
BAC, Battersea

There are no witches. Red Shift's director, Jonathan Holloway, does not believe in them. He holds that a modern audience finds it hard to swallow Macbeth chatting round the cauldron. His production, paring the play of its prophecies and spells, is a concentrated drama of politics and stress.

The possibility of the supernatural is still there in Ross Brown's score. Thunderous drum rolls, ghostly chimes and the menacing metallic rustle of cymbal brushes accompany moments of impending evil. The audio tape, visibly spinning upstage, has the air of an impersonal external power but the music could equally well symbolise the Macbeths' inner experiences as they let morality slip.

Holloway's other departure is in the characterisation of Duncan and his son Malcolm, both played by Tim Shoesmith. The old king's speeches to Macbeth and Banquo — all tenderness and gratitude — are delivered into a microphone in a tone of unremitting sarcasm.

Perhaps this reading also stands as a 20th-century readjustment of the play, casting an unadulatory eye on royalty. The negative portrayal of Duncan and Malcolm does spotlight Shakespeare's hints of parallels between their regimes and Macbeth's. Yet it flattens out the play's contrast between good and evil.

Still, textual cuts are skilfully engineered and multiple parts neatly juggled by a cast of five. Shoesmith relies too much on caricature to differentiate his roles but Malcolm Freeman moves unaffectedly between Banquo, Macduff and Macduff's son. Alastair Cording as Macbeth is unfortunately heavy-handed with iambic metres and awkwardly stiff. Beatrice Comins's Lady Macbeth, apart from a fussy sleep-walking speech, is beautifully naturalistic by contrast.

The Macbeths' relationship is scrupulously charted. Intense face-to-face sexual intimacy drifts step by step into estrangement and the marital balance of power pivots precisely on the moment of the murder. Though it might not always be subtle, Red Shift's *Macbeth* has the virtue of clarity and its polemical cuts and counter-readings valuably hurl this well-thumbed play back into the arena of reassessment.

KATE BASSETT



Bold brass...
Ray recollec...

هكذا من الأمل

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Sat 27 Mar 7.30 **CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCH** Towards the Millennium. S Rattle, P Robinson, A Gunson, J Mitchinson, S Richardson. Schoenberg Vars for Orch; Stravinsky Sym of Psalms; Janácek Glagolitic Mass £25,£20,£17,£14,£10,£5 *SBC

Sun 28 Mar 11.00 **BACH: ST MATTHEW PASSION** (in English) The Bach Choir, English Chamber Orch, Sir D Willcocks, R Tear, D Wilson-Johnson, A Roocroft, C Wyn-Rogers, P Nilon, S Roberts, H Dawkes, J Watts. £26, £22, £16, £14, £8 The Bach Choir

Sun 28 Mar 7.30 **EUROPEAN COMMUNITY YOUTH ORCHESTRA** Claudio Abbado, †Mark Wigglesworth (conds) Yevgeny Kissin (piano) Beethoven Piano Conc No 5, †Shostakovich Sym No 10 £40, £30, £20, £12.50, £8. Harold Holt Ltd*SBC

Tue 30 Mar 7.30 **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. F Welser-Möst, H Behrens. Schubert/Mahler String Qrtet (Death & the Maiden); Wagner Prelude/Liebestod from Tristan und Isolde; Strauss Closing Scene (Salome) £20,£16,12,£7,£4 (ONLY)*LP Ents

Wed 31 Mar 7.30 **PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** John Eliot Gardiner (conductor) Maria João Pires (piano) Beethoven Ov, Prometheus; Piano Conc No.4; Elgar Sym No.2 £22, £17, £10, £5, £4 (ONLY) *Philharmonia Ltd

Thu 1 Apr 7.30 **CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCH** Towards the Millennium. Simon Rattle (cond). Busoni Sarabande & Cortège, Dr. Faustus; Bartók Miraculous Mandarin; Sibelius Sym No.7; Szymanowski Stabat Mater £26, £20, £17, £14, £10, £5 *SBC

Fri 2 Apr 7.30 **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. NatWest Classics for Pleasure Series. Takuo Yuasa (cond) Jonathan Snowden (flute) Bach Suite No.2; Ravel Valses nobles et sentimentales; Berlioz Symphonie fantastique. £9, £4 *LP Ents

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Mon 29 Mar 7.45 **LONDON FESTIVAL ORCHESTRA BIRTHDAY HONOURS** R Pople, N Walker. Rachmaninov Caprice bohémien; Rhapsody on Theme of Paganini; Arensky Vars on Theme by Tchaikovsky; Tchaikovsky Sleeping Beauty (excpts). £15, £12, £10, £8 LFO

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Saturday 27 March 7.30 pm — DMITRI ALEXEEV, NIKOLAI DEMIDENKO pianos Piano Series. Concert to mark 50th Anniversary of Rachmaninov's death. Prokofiev: Suite on Schubert Waltzes; Medtner: Knight Errant; Russian Round Dance; Rachmaninov: Suite No.2 Op.17; Russian Rhapsody; Symphonic Dances. £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50 HoM

Sunday 28 March 7.00 pm NB: starting time — JENNIFER LARMORE mezzo soprano, JOHN CONSTABLE piano. Song Recital Series. Rossini: La Regata Veneziana; Arias from Giulio Cesare & Alcina (Handel), Werther & Don Quichotte (Massenet), Barber of Seville (Rossini); Fauré, Gounod, Obradors, Nin, Granados & Turina songs. £12, £10, £8 (all others sold) HoM

Monday 29 March 7.30 pm — SCHUBERT ENSEMBLE OF LONDON. TENTH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT. Schubert: Piano Quintet in A D667 The Trout; Judith Weir: I broke off a golden branch (London premiere); Schumann: Piano Quintet in E flat Op.44. £10.00, £8.50, £7.00, £5.50 Senior Management Sponsored by Baltimore Marine plc

Wednesday 31 March 7.30 pm — INTERNATIONAL SONGMAKERS AT WIGMORE HALL. Song Recital Series. Christine Schäfer soprano, Christian Elsner tenor, Graham Johnson piano. ROBERT & CLARA SCHUMANN. A Song Diary of a musical household featuring songs & duets. £12, £10, £8, £6 HoM

Thursday 1 April 7.30 pm — HIRO KUROSAKI violin, LINDA NICHOLSON fortepiano. Early Music & Baroque Series. Johann Schobert: Sonata in D minor Op.14 No 4/Op.4 No.4; Mozart: Sonata in A K526; Beethoven: Sonata in A Op.47 Kreutzer. £10, £8, £6, £4 Early Music Network

Friday 2 April 1.05 pm NB: starting time — EOS chamber orchestra. Charles Hazlewood conductor; Ian Bostridge tenor. Lunchtime Concert. Mahler/Schoenberg: Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen; Martyn Harry: Still Life (premiere); Wagner: Siegfried Idyll. £3 YCAT

Friday 2 April 7.30 pm — MONICA HUGGETT violin, TRIO SONNERIE. Early Music & Baroque Series. BACH AND THE VIOLIN: THE CHAMBER MUSIC. JS Bach: Violin Sonata No.5 BWV1018; Viola da gamba Sonata No.3 BWV1029; Partita No.1 BWV1002; Violin Sonata BWV1021. 4th of 6 concerts. £10, £8, £6, £4 Francesca McManus

Saturday 3 April 7.30 pm — ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN IN THE FIELDS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE. 25th Anniversary Series. Mozart: Divertimenti in F K138, in D K205; Grieg: "The Last Spring" Elegiac Melody No.2 Op.34; Brahms: Serenade Op 11 (Nonet version); Selection of Romantic Verse with guest readers Paul Shelley & Eve Matheson. £12, £10, £8, £6 ASMF

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Fri 2 April 7.30pm — **ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Paavo Berglund cond. Emma Johnson clarinet. Mendelssohn Ov. A Midsummer Night's Dream Mozart Clarinet Concerto, K622 Sibelius Symphony No.2 £22 £17 £13 £9 £8 £6 *RPO Ltd*

Sat 3 April 7.30pm — **YURI BASHMET** Viola. – Yuri Bashmet Series. Mikhail Muntian piano, Michael Davis, Janice Graham violins, Paul Silverthorne viola, Moray Welsh cello. Brahms Clarinet Trio in A minor, Op.114; Horn Trio Op.40 in E flat; Clarinet Quintet Op.115 in B minor (works arr. Brahms for viola) £5-£12 *LSO Ltd*

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Sun 4th April 7.30pm — **LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**, Paul Daniel cond., Moray Welsh cello, Rod Franks trumpet. Sibelius The Swan of Tuonela Elgar Cello Concerto Haydn Trumpet Concerto in E flat Rachmaninov Symphonic Dances £5-£28 *LSO Ltd. In assoc. with Raymond Gubbay & the Daily Telegraph*

CHORAL MUSIC FOR EASTER WEEK

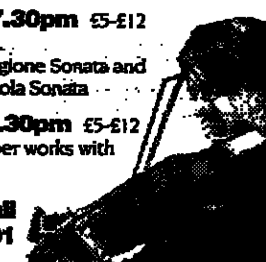
Mon 5 April 7.30pm — **MOZART EVENING** London Oriana Choir, English Baroque Orchestra, Leon Lovett cond., Lynda Russell, Margaret McDonald, David Fieldsend, Giles Davies. Mozart Ave Verum Corpus. Eine kleine Nachtmusik: Mass in C minor *London Oriana Choir* £17 £15 £13 £10 £7 £5 *SPONSORED BY SOLICITORS WILDE SAPTE*

Tue 6 April 7.30pm — **FAURÉ REQUIEM** English Chamber Orchestra, Martin Neary cond., Judith Howarth, Simon Gay, Leigh Nixon, David Wilson-Johnson soloists. Prog. also inc. Mozart Regina Coeli, K108 Vesperae solennes de confessore, K339 £18 £15 £12 £9 £6 £4 *English Chamber Orchestra and Music Society*

Thu 8 April 7.30pm — **HANDEL MESSIAH** City of London Sinfonia, Adrian Leaper cond., Malcolm Armistead, Yvonne Howard, Andrew Tusa, Andrew Greenan soloists, Joyful Company of Singers £18 £15 £12 £9 £5 *Barbican Centre*

Good Fri 9 April 7.00pm (n.b. time) — **BACH ST JOHN PASSION** in German. Academy of Ancient Music. Christopher Hogwood cond., Charles Daniels Evangelist Oliver Widmer Christus, Patricia Rozario, Carolyn Watkinson, Neil Archer, David Thomas, Academy of Ancient Music Choir £21.50 £17.50 £12.50 £8.50 £5 *Barbican Centre*

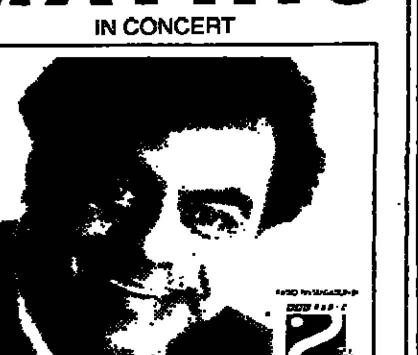
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GLOBE BO/CC 071 494 5067 (bkg fee)071 344 4444/497 9977 MARTIN SHAW Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards Peter Hall's bracing and revelatory production" E Std Anna Carteret Michael Denison Hannah Gordon Dulcie Gray Martin Shaw David Yelland OSCAR WILDE'S AN IDEAL HUSBAND "A triumph... audiences are advised to beat a path to the Globe" S. Times Eves 7.45 Mats Thu 3, Sat 4

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 071 930 8800 (inc cc no bkg fee) 071 344 4444 (with bkg fee) ROBERT LINDSAY "SUPERB" D Exp "A SHINING STAR" Indp as CYRANO DE BERGERAC "SPECTACULAR, SWASHBUCKLING... Marvellously Passionate" D Tel adapted by JOHN WELLS Directed by ELIJAH MOSHINSKY Eves 7.30 Wed & Sat Mats 2.30

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 NOW BOOKING TO MARCH 1994 APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS

LON. PALLADIUM 24hr Bo cc £1 per Tkt Svce chg 071 494 5020 071 344 4444/497 9977 Groups 494 5456 Andrew Lloyd Webber's "exuberant new production" Std of "Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's Palladium Blockbuster" Gdn JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT Starring PHILLIP SCHOFIELD Dir by STEVEN PIMLOTT Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 NOW BOOKING TO MAY 1 '93 QUEUE DAILY FOR RETURNS

LYRIC, Shafts Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 071 344 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee). cc 497 9977 Grps 071 930 6123 The Joint Never Stops Jumpin FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE THE OLIVIER AWARD WINNING MUSICAL 2ND GREAT YEAR Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat at 6 & 8.45 BOOKING UNTIL END APR '93

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Ton't & Mon (PREVIEWS) 7.15 MACBETH Shakespeare LYTTELTON Rodgers and Hammerstein's CAROUSEL Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.15. Day seats and returns only. (LAST PERFS) COTTESLOE Today 10.30 Mon 2.00 & 4.00 THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW Roel Adam (Trans Noel Clark) Today 2.30 & 7.00 Mon 7.00 MR A's AMAZING MAZE PLAYS Alan Ayckbourn

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PRINCE OF WALES 071 839 5972 cc (24hr/no bkg fee) 836 2428 Group 071 413 3321 CITY OF ANGELS A New Musical by Larry Gelbart Cy Coleman David Zippel Directed by Michael Blakemore RED PRICE PREVIEWS NOW £10.00 OFF ALL SEAT PRICES Opens 30 March at 7.00 Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 836 3464 / 071 344 4444 Groups 930 6123. THE NEW GERSHWIN MUSICAL COMEDY CRAZY FOR YOU "IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW" S. Times Eves 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00

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WYNDHAMS BO/CC 867 1116 /071 344 4444/071 497 9977 Nomination 1993 Olivier Award BEST NEW PLAY BEST ACTRESS JUDI DENCH Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards JUDI DENCH MICHAEL PENNINGTON The acclaimed RSC Production of "PETER SHAFFER'S brilliant new play" S. Times THE GIFT OF THE GORGON Directed by PETER HALL Mon-Sat 7.45 Mat Sat 3

YOUNG VIC 928 6363cc344 4444 Arthur Miller's The Last Yankee "Uniformly Splendid" D.Mail "Masterful Production" S.Tms Must end 17 April 8pm (sats 2.30) Frm 22/4 James Wilby-The Trial

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BBC1

7.25 News and weather (3939843)
7.30 Henry's Cat (r) (3553114) **7.35 Wiz Bang** (s) (8112814) **7.50 Litt' Bits**. Cartoon (r) (8511805)
8.10 Eggs 'n' Baker. Cheryl Baker looks at strange food concoctions, including leek porridge and Welsh banana rarebit (s) (5400992) **8.35 Tom and Jerry**. A triple cartoon bill (r) (4419824)
9.00 Going Live! Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield are joined by wrestler Hulk Hogan, singer Gloria Estefan, environmentalist Jonathon Porritt and *The Big Breakfast*'s Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (s) (29984756) **12.12 Weather** (7706244)
12.15 Grandstand, introduced by Steve Rider. The line-up is: **12.20** Football Focus: a preview of the World Cup qualifying matches, a review of Scotland v Germany, and Premier League action; **12.50** News; **12.55, 1.25, 1.55** Racing from Newbury: (1.00) Lambourn Handicap Hurdle; (1.30) Mitsubishi Shogun Trophy Novices Handicap Chase; (2.00) Hoechst Panacur EBF Mares National Hunt Novice Hurdle Handicap; **1.10, 2.10, 2.45** Rowing: (1.10) Boat Race Preview; (2.10) Boat Race Toss; (3.15) The 139th university Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge from Putney to Mortlake on the Thames; **1.40, 2.20** Badminton: Yonex All-England Open championship from Wembley Arena; **3.45** Rugby League: Wigan v Bradford Northern in the second semi-final of the Silk Cut challenge cup from Elland Road; **4.40** Final Score (82113843)
5.15 News with Moira Stuart. Weather (2295244) **5.25 Regional news** and sport (1149027)
5.30 Cartoon. *Abdul the Bulbul Ameer* (591176)
5.40 That's Showbusiness. Mike Smith's guests on the celebrity quiz show are Nula Conwell and Gillian Taylforth, who compete against Neil Morrissey and Nick Revell (Ceefax) (s) (323602)
6.10 You Rang, M'Lord? Upstairs-downstairs comedy starring Paul Shane and Su Pollard. Lady Lavender (Mavis Pugh) wants to bury her parrot with military honours. (Ceefax) (s) (416832)



Spoofing: Short, Martin and Chase (7.00pm)

7.00 Film: Three Amigos! (1986). Middling spoof of *The Magnificent Seven*, starring Steve Martin, Chevy Chase and Martin Short as silent film heroes who unwittingly become involved with Mexican bandits. Directed by John Landis (61325379)
8.40 Birds of a Feather: Mice. Tracey decides to hold a perfume party. Starring Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson (r). (Ceefax) (s) (221553)
9.10 News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Weather (432331)
9.30 That's Life! Esther Rantzen and team right more consumer wrongs, and report on the emergency first-aiders who are joining the St John Ambulance "Breath of Life" campaign. (Ceefax) (s) (298737)
10.10 Film: Harlem Nights (1989). Eddie Murphy directs and stars in a hit-and-miss gangster comedy set in 1930s Harlem. With Richard Pryor and Danny Aiello. (Ceefax) (s) (777485). Wales: That's Showbusiness; 10.40-12.25am Film: Harlem Nights
11.55 The Young Comedians. American humour (r) (451824). Wales: 12.25am-1.15 The Young Comedians **12.45am Weather** (3920080)

BBC2

6.40 Open University: Organic Chemistry — Molecules in the Mirror (4908331) **7.05** Maths — "Real" Exponential Functions (3483331) **7.30** Build a Better Business — Fair Trading (7582244) **7.55** A New Role for Men (8532398) **8.20** Biological Barriers (5404718) **8.45** Arts — What is Music? (4408350) **9.10** Ecology — Decomposition (3346114) **9.35** Science — Volcanic Island (8775824) **10.00** Venice and Antwerp in the 16th Century (7884824) **10.25** Health and Disease in Zimbabwe (7212805) **10.50** Women's Studies — Counting the Threads (7895176) **11.15** Television — Light Fantastic (5354089) **11.40** The Developing World — Gender Matters (2072447) **12.05** Going to School in Japan (3548447) **12.30** Education and Society — Anti-Racist Maths (9076602) **12.55** Modern Art — Berthe Morisot (1722737) **1.20** Creative Management — Strategy on the Screen (28572263) **1.45** Voluntary Organisations — Strategies for Survival (35472398) **2.10** Psychology — Child's Play (79855843) **2.35** Animal Behaviour — A Conflict of Interests (9028447) **3.00 Animation Now** (9264244)
3.10 Myrna Loy: So Nice to Come Home To. Kathleen Turner hosts a tribute to a Hollywood leading lady of the thirties and forties, who co-stars with Cary Grant in the following film (5988244)
3.55 Film: Mr Blandings Builds His Dream House (1948, b/w). See Choice (897621)
5.30 Late Again. Highlights from last week's editions of *The Late Show* (s) (474027)
6.20 Scrutiny. Nicholas Jones reports on the work of the parliamentary select committees. (Ceefax) (734737)
6.50 Sounds of the Seventies. New wave music from the United States, including Alice Cooper singing "Under My Wheels", Patti Smith's "Horses", Iggy Pop with "I'm Bored" and "Rosalita" by Bruce Springsteen (s) (373379)
7.25 News with Moira Stuart. Sport and weather (630945)
7.40 ScreenPlay: The Countess Alice (1992). Allan Cubitt's poignant drama about a former society beauty with a mysterious past. Starring Wendy Hiller and Zoë Wanamaker (r) (s) (107756)
9.10 Fine Cut: Titicut Follies. See Choice (7450466)
10.35 Film: Plenty (1985). David Hare's uneasy adaptation of his stage play about social malaise in Britain after the second world war. Meryl Streep stars as a neurotic young woman who is unable to recapture the fulfilment of her years as a resistance fighter in occupied France. With Charles Dance, Tracey Ullman, John Gielgud, Sting and Ian McKellen. Directed by Fred Schepisi. (Ceefax) (46062398). Ends at **12.40am**



Disenchanted: Streep with Dance (10.35pm)

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CHOICE

Fine Cut: Titicut Follies
BBC2, 9.10pm

Frederick Wiseman's graphic documentary about a maximum security hospital for the criminally insane in Massachusetts has quite a history. The film was made in 1966, surprisingly with the approval of the hospital, but banned by the state authorities. The ban was only lifted two years ago and this is the world premiere. Bleakly shot in black and white, and offered without comment or commentary, it is a terrible indictment of a regime that is at best insensitive and at worst brutal. We see one inmate being forced fed, another taunted and humiliated over an untidy cell. There appears to be no attempt at treatment or rehabilitation. Even in the cynical nineties, the film is still deeply shocking. No wonder that the state was so anxious to suppress it.

Monkey Business
Channel 4, 1.00pm

Howard Hawks was a hard-nosed Hollywood all-rounder with a special talent for the screwball comedy, often assisted by Cary Grant. Hawks-Grant vehicles include *Bringing Up Baby*, *His Girl Friday* and *I Was a Male War Bride* but *Monkey Business* is arguably the best. Crew-cutted and bespectacled, Grant plays a professor in search of a drug to reverse the aging process. Unknown to him an escaped chimpanzee enters his laboratory and mixes the right formula. Grant and his wife (Ginger Rogers) take the drug and revert to teenagers. A situation not without its darker side is worked through with impeccable logic. There is a fine script by Ben Hecht, Charles Lederer and I.A.L. Diamond, and an early role for Marilyn Monroe.

Mr Blandings Builds His Dream House
BBC2, 3.55pm

The second Cary Grant comedy of the afternoon is a more anodyne affair than *Monkey Business* but no less enjoyable for that. Grant plays Jim Blandings, an advertising executive who leaves New York for a dilapidated house in rural Connecticut and finds he has taken on more than he bargained for. Myrna Loy, who is profiled in a documentary at 3.10pm, plays Grant's wife and there is sprightly support from Melvyn Douglas. The story was taken from a popular novel and scripted by the reliable team of Norman Panama and Melvin Frank. H.C. Potter, who had shown his flair for comedy with the zany *Hellzapoppin*, directed. The plot was recycled in 1986 for a misconceived remake, *The Money Pit*.



Guns and minors: host Oprah Winfrey (C4, 11.35pm)

Adult Oprah: Violent Girls
Channel 4, 11.35pm

With horrendous crimes by young children much on the mind in Britain, this edition of the Oprah Winfrey show has an awful echo. It may make us thankful that we have not yet got to the stage where girls in their early teens take out guns and shoot people they dislike. That is the story of Naomi, who was fed up with being teased at school and shot her tormentor through the chest on his own doorstep. At least she could claim a troubled home background. No such excuse is offered by Phyllis, a bright girl from a loving family, who conspired to kill a former boyfriend. Murders by teenagers in the United States have nearly doubled in the past four years. An expert blames peer pressure but it seems a poor explanation. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV beginning with *Rise and Shine*, and at **7.45** *Saturday Disney* (8485282)
9.25 What's Up Doc? presented by Pat Sharp, Yvette Fielding and Andy Crane, who look at rare breeds of farm animals and grunge fashion (s) (57866176)
11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The specialist chart is dance and the *Video Vault* features the Happy Mondays singing "Step On" (r) (s) (27176)
12.30 Speakeasy. Among the teenage concerns under discussion are crime, depression, two-timing and crushes. Presented by Emma Forbes and Dr Mark Salter. The guest is Michelle Gayle, Hattie in *EastEnders* (s) (58992)
1.00 ITN News with Dermot Murnaghan. Weather (87638718) **1.05 London Today**. (Teletext) (87637089)
1.10 Movies, Movies, Movies. Includes a review of *Forever Young* starring Mel Gibson, and previews of *The Jungle Book* and *Splitting Heirs*. Video reviews include *Wayne's World* and *Father of the Bride* starring Steve Martin (11638534)
1.40 Film: The Last Unicorn (1982). Colourful animated fantasy about a unicorn who sets out to rescue her kinfolk from an evil king. With the voices of Mia Farrow, Jeff Bridges, Alan Arkin, Angela Lansbury and Christopher Lee. Directed by Jules Bass and Arthur Rankin Jr (1054295)
3.05 The A-Team: The Battle of Bel Air. George Peppard leads the heroic band of mercenaries in another action-packed adventure (r) (5871843)
3.55 WCW Worldwide Wrestling (2335602)
4.40 News with Dermot Murnaghan. Sports results and weather (3585718) **5.00 London Tonight** (2225485)
5.10 New Baywatch: Strangers Among Us. UFO enthusiasts pose an extra hazard for the well-muscled lifeguards of Los Angeles county. Starring David Hasselhoff. (Teletext) (s) (9698718)
6.00 Blind Date. Cilla Black plays cupid to more boys and girls. (Teletext) (s) (66911)
7.00 Film: Cannonball Run II (1983). Another attempt to squeeze comedy mileage out of the illegal trans-American car race but it is even weaker than the original. Starring Burt Reynolds and Dom DeLuise and directed by Hal Needham. (Teletext) (95732379)
8.55 News with Dermot Murnaghan. Weather (934640)



Keeping watch: Dreyfuss and Estevez (9.15pm)

9.15 Film: Stakeout (1987). Lively comedy thriller starring Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez as detectives assigned to spy on Madeleine Stowe, whose former boyfriend has escaped from jail. Directed by John Badham (88649089)
11.25 Film: The Little Girl Who Lives Down the Lane (1976). An engrossing thriller, starring Jodie Foster as a sinister 13-year-old, whose father never seems to be at home. With Martin Sheen. Directed by Nicolas Gessner (59350756)
NB: the following times are in BST.
2.05am The Big E. Magazine for and about young Europeans (2483770)
3.10 Basketball. Action from the American NBA league. Followed by **Rock Sport**. Olivier Isler makes the world's longest underwater dive (9083664)
4.30 BPM. Dance music (s). Followed by **Night Shift**. Working in the small hours (59954)
5.30 ITN Morning News (44041). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. Cartoon adventures (r) (s) (4873355) **6.25 Dennis**. Animated fun (4524008) **6.35 Alfred J. Kwak**. Alfred babysits five little monsters (4918718) **7.00 Mr Men**. Cartoon with Mr Mean (3910718) **7.05 Kid 'n' Play** (r) (6165911) **7.35 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors**. Cartoon adventures (r) (7509911)
8.00 Saved by the Bell. American school drama series (37911) **8.30 High 5**. BMX biking (36282)
9.00 News (9180398) **9.15 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line** (8276176)
10.00 Trans World Sport (58553)
11.00 Gazzetta Football Italia. Paul Gascoigne presents highlights of last week's matches and previews tomorrow's games between AC Milan and Torino, Inter Milan and Pescara and Genoa v Sampdoria. With Gary Bloom and James Richardson (45089)
12.00 Sign On: At Leisure. The series for the deaf and hard-of-hearing visits Chester Zoo and reports on a performance by deaf and hearing actors in Bolton of Shakespeare's *Titus Andronicus* (s) (47398)
12.30 Songs and Memories. In the last programme of the series, Sunil Butt, Bombay film star turned politician, talks about his career and chooses his favourite film music (56534)
1.00 Film: Monkey Business (1952, b/w). See Choice (88225379)
2.45 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster. Brough Scott introduces: (3.00) Hayselden Audi VW Doncaster Shield; (3.40) William Hill Lincoln Handicap; (4.15) Cammidge Trophy; (4.45) Insurex Expo-Sure Group Handicap (31406244)



Estranged: Sandra Maitland as Mandy (5.05pm)

5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition. Mandy (Sandra Maitland) visits her estranged husband Terry (r). (Teletext) (s) (5162260)
6.30 Right to Reply. Sheena McDonald invites viewers to comment on television programmes. Includes a discussion on whether or not *Hidden Agenda* and *Angel* should have been pulled following the Warrington bombing (973)
7.00 A Week in Politics. Includes reaction to the government's new plans for the coal industry and its proposals for the restructuring of the police (5195)
8.00 Adventures: Bismarck — Up Close and Personal. A documentary about the two-year hunt by the oceanographer Dr Robert Ballard for the wreck of the German battleship Bismarck, sunk on her maiden voyage in 1941 (r). (Teletext) (4843)
9.00 Porterhouse Blue. The final part of Malcolm Bradbury's dramatisation of the comic novel by Tom Sharpe, starring Ian Richardson and David Jason (r). (Teletext) (1379)
10.00 Saturday Zoo. Among Jonathan Ross's guests are Carrie Fisher, Hulk Hogan and Dexy's Midnight Runners (s) (4466)
11.00 Ready, Steady, Go! (b/w). Music from Billy J. Kramer, The Kinks, The Who, Sandie Shaw, Bobby Vee and Billy Fury (478466)
11.35 Adult Oprah: Violent Girls (s). See Choice (824521)
12.30 Film: A Day in the Death of Joe Egg (1971). Alan Bates and Janet Suzman star in a skilful adaptation of Peter Nichols's black comedy about a couple coming to terms with a disabled daughter. Directed by Peter Medak (56596)
3.30 (BST) The Word (r) (s) (76549). Ends at **4.30**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Danger Bay (84553) **6.30** Rin Tin Tin (55992) **7.00** Fun Factory (9021832) **12.00** WWF Superstars (84331) **1.00pm** Rich Man, Poor Man (67737) **3.00** Cartoons (13379) **4.00** Knights and Warriors (25114) **5.00** WWF Mania (5008) **6.00** Beverly Hills 90210 (13843) **7.00** Class of '96 (27060) **8.00** Unsolved Mysteries (43008) **9.00** Cops I (21398) **9.30** Cops II (85060) **10.00** WWF Mania (26331) **11.00** Saturday Night Live (91282) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (82195) **8.30** News and Business Report (306282) **9.30** Nightline (92350) **10.00** Dayline (77114) **10.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (61992) **11.00** Dayline (91898) **11.30** Getaway (65350) **12.30pm** Fashion TV (32244) **1.30** The Reporters (33973) **2.30** Nightline (90485) **3.30** Those Were the Days (83466) **4.30** Getaway (5089) **5.00** Live at Five (82992) **6.30** Fashion TV (75176) **7.30** The Reporters (7718) **9.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (73379) **10.30** The Reporters (98621) **11.30** Fashion TV (56992) **12.30am** Getaway (94770) **2.30** Fashion TV (98428) **3.30** Target (60645) **4.30** West of Moscow (95770) **5.30-6.00** The Reporters (75935)

SKY MOVIES PLUS

6.00am Showcase (20553)
8.00 Silver Lode (1954, b/w): A bridegroom is accused of murder (61553)
10.00 Krull (1983): Fantasy about a prince on a romantic quest (73440)
12.00 The Last Remake of Beau Geste (1977): Marty Feldman's Foreign Legion spoof. With Ann-Margret (51176)
2.00pm Joe Dancer: Murder One, Dancer 0 (1983): Private eye Robert Blake is charged with manslaughter (40911)
4.00 Ironclads (1991): American civil war drama about the warships Merrimac and Monitor. Starring Virginia Madsen (3640)
6.00 Frankenstein: The College Years (1992): Medical students create Frank N Stein, a seven-foot monster (37447)
8.00 Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991): Cyborg Arnold Schwarzenegger protects Linda Hamilton's son (57428060)
10.15 Marked for Death (1990): Steven Seagal wages a one-man war against Jamaican drug-dealers (666805)
11.50 Two Moon Junction (1989): Sherilyn Fenn is attracted to itinerant carnival worker Richard Tyson (55809244)
2.40am (BST) State of Grace (1991): Sean Penn infiltrates a crime syndicate (50558916)
4.50 Fugitive Among Us (1991): Peter Strauss turns the hunt for a serial rapist into a personal vendetta (4894041). Ends at **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Cleopatra (1963): Elizabeth Taylor stars as the Egyptian queen (4756060)
8.00 The Amityville Horror (1979): James Brolin and Margot Kidder move into an evil house (23282)
10.00 The Shining (1980): Jack Nicholson goes berserk (68195). Ends at **11.30**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.30am One Hour With You (1932, b/w): Genevieve Tobin flirts with Parisian doctor Maurice Chevalier (82805)
8.00 Apache (1954). Burt Lancaster refuses to surrender (42363599)
9.40 Return to Green Acres (1990): Eddie Albert and Eva Gabor try to thwart a property developer (78672701)
11.25 Peter and Pompey: Australian family drama (28818602)
1.10pm Cobra Woman (1944, b/w): Maria Montez stars as twin sisters (2376737)
2.25 Las Vegas Hillbillies (1966). A country bumpkin inherits a casino (387534)
4.00 A Shock to the System (1990): Michael Caine murders his way up the corporate ladder (1282)
6.00 Swallows and Amazons (1974): Arthur Ransome's classic adventure (25089)
8.00 Cold Dog Soup (1990): Comedy about a man's attempts to do a bizarre favour for a beautiful woman. With Frank Whaley (30534)
10.00 Dying Young (1991): Julia Roberts accepts a job as nursemaid to leukaemia victim Campbell Scott (98060)
12.00 The Other Side of Love (1991): Single mother Cheryl Ladd is wrongly jailed for 15 years (57760848)
2.25am (BST) Dead Reckoning (1990): Thriller on the high seas (949393)
4.00 Unman, Wittering and Zigo (1971): Pupils menace their teacher. Starring David Hemmings (740770). Ends at **5.40**

SKY SPORTS

6.30am European League Round-Up (23398) **7.30** One-Day Cricket: West Indies v Pakistan (3879992) **12.00** NHRA Drag Racing Today (37534) **12.30pm** Gillette World Sports Special (62718) **1.00** Sports Saturday (4429282) **6.00** One-Day Cricket (93027) **8.00** US PGA Golf (787008) **11.00** Irish Snooker (81981) **1.00-3.00am** One-Day Cricket: West Indies v Pakistan (18886)

EUROSPORT

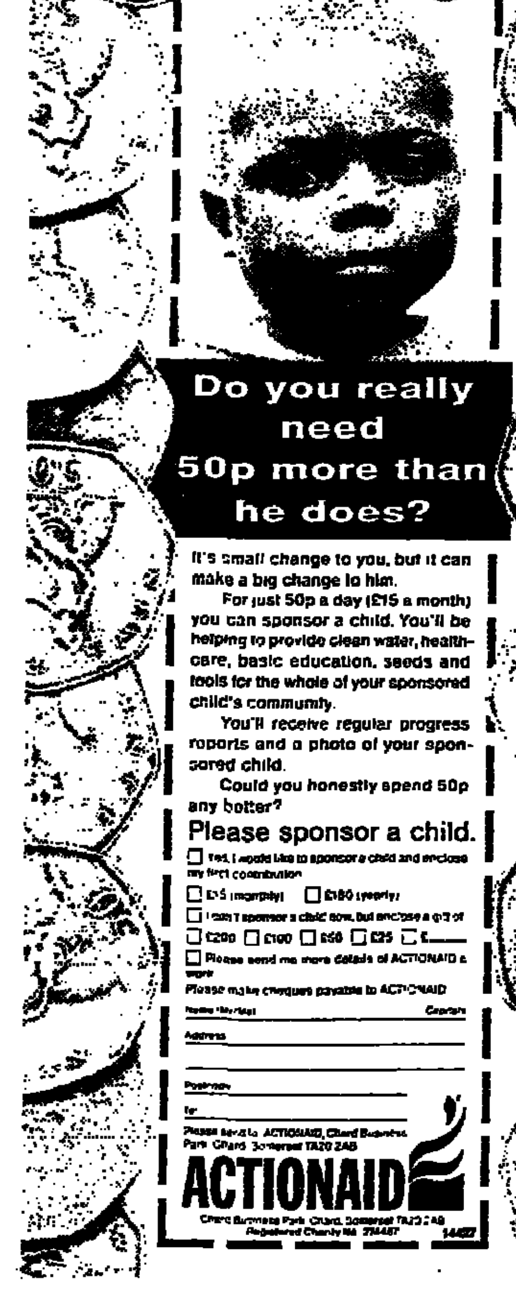
7.30am Step Aerobics (21447) **8.00** Ford Ski Report (22398) **9.00** Alpine Skiing (1524669) **1.00pm** Ski Jumping (85669) **2.00** Tennis (579553) **3.50** Brazilian Grand Prix (5437060) **5.00** Alpine Skiing (2176) **6.00** Ski Jumping (65805) **7.00** Davis Cup Tennis: Russia v Germany (22176) **9.00** Football: World Cup '94 Qualifiers (69060) **10.00** Boxing (49718) **12.00-1.00am** Brazilian Grand Prix (97732)

UK GOLD

6.00am Rainbow (52725263) **6.15** Button Moon (52720718) **6.30** Michael Bentine's Potty Time (8534824) **7.00** Chocky (2954621) **7.30** Owl TV (2973756) **8.00** Lassie (1580466) **8.30** Rentaghost (1589737) **9.00** The Raccoons (1570089) **9.30** Sucky O'Hare (6781263) **10.00** Jem (6525176) **10.30** Dungeons and Dragons (1569973) **11.00** Film: In Which We Serve (1942, b/w) with Noel Coward (4306911) **1.00pm** Film: Life for Ruth (1966) starring Michael Craig and Janet Munro (96871263) **2.45** EastEnders (21969008) **5.30** The Chronicles of Narnia (5118669) **6.00** Campion (6700398) **7.00** Bless This House (2415195) **7.30** Till Death Us Do Part (5195718) **8.00** Bergerac (2269447) **9.00** The Lotus Eaters (2272911) **10.00** Film: Doctor in Trouble (1970) with Leslie Phillips (6253843) **11.45** Frankie Howerd: Then Churchill Said to Me (7219027) **12.15am** Filthy, Rich and Catflap (5411119) **1.00-3.00** In Concert: Suzanne Vega (7530935)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Stories Without Words (59805) **6.30** Cartoon Classics (50060) **7.00** The Best of Jack in the Box (12398) **7.30** David the Gnome (91805) **8.00** Storybreak (81379) **8.30** Barnyard Commandos (73350) **9.00** Gravedale High (68553) **10.00** The Smoggies (97089) **11.00** Bravestarr (83883) **12.00** Cartoon Classics (6872535) **12.55pm** Interberg (38849111) **1.20** Pugwall (7009701) **2.15** Wildabout (335176) **2.45** Wonder Why? (3827305) **3.10** Under the Mountain (3100553) **3.35** Round the Twist (4864669) **4.05** The Guys Next Door (5677485) **4.30** Shadows (7379) **5.00** Just Us (1843) **5.30** Fifteen (1331) **6.00-7.00** Fame (10379)



VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** Wrestling (8288319) **2.00** The A-Team (7492244) **2.55-4.40** Film: How to Murder a Millionaire (65502911) **5.00-5.15** Anglia News (2225485) **2.05** Hollywood Report (2115041) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35-5.30** The Big E

BORDER

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** Granada Sport: Kick Off (8288319) **2.00-4.40** Granada Sport: Action (33157283) **5.00-5.10** Border News (2225485) **2.05** Hollywood Report (2115041) **2.35** BPM (300480) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35-5.30** The Big E (5237409)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (11638534) **1.40** Wheels in Sport (35450176) **2.10** Film: A Mother's Courage (2894911) **3.00** The A-Team (5863824) **3.55-4.40** Wrestling (2335602) **5.00** Central News (1115060) **5.05-5.10** The Central Match: Goals Extra (1114331) **2.05** Film: The Big Job (705472) **3.40** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (71352026) **4.10** America's Top Ten (75241428) **4.40** Jobfinder (3254954)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** Granada Sport: Kick Off (8288319) **2.00-4.40** Granada Sport: Action (33157283) **5.00-5.10** Granada News (2225485) **2.05** Hollywood Report (2115041) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35-5.30** The Big E (5237409)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies, (58992) **1.10** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (11638534) **1.40** McCloud (1054295) **3.05-4.40** Film: Twin Beds (60759263) **5.00-5.10** HTV West News and Sport (2225485) **2.05** Hollywood Report (2115041) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35** The Big E (7941288)

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 5.00-5.10 HTV Wales News and Sport

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.30 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (11638534) **1.40** Film: Poker Alice (28641824) **3.25** The Munsters (9618379) **3.55-4.40** Wrestling (2335602) **5.00-5.10** Meridian News (115060) and Sport (1114331) **2.05** The Big E (5853041) **3.00** The Twilight Zone (34028208) **3.20** Basketball (8290175) **4.20** America's Top Ten (75231041) **4.50-5.30** Wrestling (3245208)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** The A-Team (2960485) **2.05** Film: The Quest (118331) **3.45-4.40** McCloud (8116824) **5.00-5.10** Tyne Tees Saturday (2225485) **1.05** Coach (4228225) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.30-5.30** Cue the Music (5237409)

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** Saturday Sport (87641282) **1.20** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (11635447) **1.50** Transworld Sport (1646176) **2.50** The A-Team (8436331) **3.45** Cartoon (8601718) **4.00-4.40** Wrestling (2396805) **5.00-5.10** UTV Live (1115060) **2.05** Hollywood Report (2115041) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35-5.30** The Big E (5237409)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Anybody Out There? (58992) **1.10** Film: Sahara (23489669) **3.10** The Munsters Today (7642669) **3.40** Movies, Movies, Movies (4136534) **4.10-4.40** Nigel Mansell's IndyCar 93 (2308992) **5.00-5.10** Westcountry Weekend Latest (2225485) **2.05** Hollywood Report (2115041) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35-5.30** The Big E (5237409)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (58992) **1.10** The A-Team (2960485) **2.05** Film: The Quest (118331) **3.45-4.40** McCloud (816824) **5.00-5.10** Calendar News (2225485) **1.05** Coach (4228225) **2.35** BPM (8775461) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (5848954) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (5237409)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 Mr Men (3910718) **7.05** Kid 'n' Play (6165911) **7.35** Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors (7509911) **8.00** Saved by the Bell (37911) **8.30** High 5 (36282) **9.00** News (9180398) **9.15** Racing: The Morning Line (8276176) **10.00** Trans World Sport (58553) **11.00** Gazzetta Football Italia — With Paul Gascoigne (45089) **12.00** Sign on at Leisure (47398) **12.30** The Wonder Years (56534) **1.00** Film: Monkey Business (88225379) **2.45** Channel 4 Racing (31406244) **5.05** Brookside (5162260) **6.30** Magic Roundabout (953195) **6.35** Now You're Talking (808911) **7.00** News (653718) **7.20** Traed Oer (223466) **7.50** Toll Parcmelyn (837981) **8.25** Tocyn Tymor (938756) **9.15** Short and Curlies: A Nice Arrangement (433060) **9.30** Benny Hill (76398) **10.00** Saturday Zoo (4466) **11.00** Ready Steady Go! (478466) **11.35** Adult Oprah (840669) **12.25-1.25** Tales From the Hollywood Hills (5060645)

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Steve Edwards (FM only) **6.00am 7.00** Neale James **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00pm** Adrian Juste **2.00** Depeche Mode in conversation with Paul Gambaccini **3.00** Johnnie Walker **6.00** The Saturday Rock Show **8.30** Armando Iannucci **9.00** Andy Kershaw Sessions from Burning Youth, Butch Hancock and Jimmie Dale Gilmore **11.00-4.00am** John Peel (FM from 12.00)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Bill Rennells **6.00** Barbara Sturgeon **8.05** Brian Matthew: Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Anne Robinson **12.00** Hayes on Saturday **1.30pm** For Better or for Worse **2.00** Ronnie Hilton: Sounds of the Fifties **3.00** Steve Race **4.00** Wired for Sound: The Cliff Richard Story (r) **5.00** Cinema 2 **5.30** Nick Barraclough's New Country **6.00** Tony Bennett in Concert **7.00** I've Heard That Song Before: John Watters presents the last in the series **7.30** Derngate Decade: A concert celebrating the first ten years of the Northampton entertainment complex **9.30** David Jacobs presents Easy Does It **10.00** Radio 2 Arts Programme with Sheridan Morley **12.05am** Ronnie Hilton: Sounds of the Fifties (r) **1.00-4.00** Charles Nove with Night Ride

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **Noon**. **6.00am** World Service: World News. **6.05** News About Britain. **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Mark Curry's Weekend Edition **9.30** Get Set **10.30** Hopalong Cassidy: Vintage American cowboy detective series **11.00** Go! **12.00** Sport on 4 Plus 1 (at Radio 4 at 9.05am) **12.30pm** Sportscall **1.30** Sport on Five: John Inverdale presents commentary on the Oxford-Cambridge boat race, football, rugby union and racing from Doncaster **5.00** Sports Report **6.05** Six-O-Six **7.30** Afropop Worldwide **8.30** Le Too **9.30** Nightbeat **10.00** Sports Bulletin **10.15** On the Level, incl **11.00** Sport **12.00-12.10am** News, Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** World Business Report **4.40** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** People and Politics **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** A Jolly Good Show **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Worldbrief **9.30** Personal View **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News **10.01** Jazz Now and Then **10.15** Letter from America **10.30** Waveguide **10.40** Book Choice **10.45** From the Weeklies **11.00** Newsdesk **11.29** Travel News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 3 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** Club 648 **2.15** Personal View **2.30** Sportsworld **3.00** News **3.15** Sportsworld **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** News **8.10** Personal View **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe This Weekend **8.55** European Sports News **9.00** News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.05** Words of Faith **11.10** Book Choice **11.15** A Jolly Good Show **Midnight** News **12.30am** The Ken Bruce Show **1.00** News **1.01** Play of the Week: The Pipsqueak (All times in **BST**) **3.00** Newsdesk **3.30** Indians Abroad **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** Sport

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** CD Countdown **12.00** Petroc Trelawny **3.00pm** Adrian Love **6.00** Classic America **7.00** Opera: Metropolitan Opera Orchestra under Levine performs Wagner's *Die Walküre* With Gary Lakes, Jessye Norman and Hildegard Behrens **10.00** Classic Quiz **12.00-6.00am** Andre Leon

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University. Jews and Christians in Renaissance Venice **6.55** Weather
7.00 Record Review, with Paul Gunery. Haydn (Piano Concerto in D, H XVIII 11: Emanuel Ax; Franz Liszt CO); Ferdinand David (Introduction and Variations on a Theme by Schubert: Dieter Klöcker, clarinet; Czechoslovak RSO under Gernot Schmalfuss); Hindemith (Concerto, Der Schwanendreher: Geraldine Walther, viola; San Francisco SO under Herbert Blomstedt); Schumann (Piano Quartet in C minor, 1829: André Previn, piano, Young Uck Kim, violin, Heichiro Ohyama, viola, Gary Hoffman, cello); Elgar (Falstaff: LSO under Jeffrey Tate)
9.00 News 9.05 Record Review, with Anthony Burton. **Building a Library**. Includes reviews of Bach (Motets) and new releases. **10.35 Record Release**: Berlioz (Symphonie fantastique. Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique under John Eliot Gardiner); **11.30** Ivan Hewett reviews reissues of 20th-century music, including Messiaen (Turangalila-symphonie), Bartók (Mikrokosmos) and Schoenberg (Concerto for string quartet and orchestra after Handel's Concerto Grosso, Op 6 No 7)
1.00pm News 1.05 Celebrity Recital: Maurizio Pollini, piano, plays Schubert (Sonata in B flat, D960). **1.50** At the Piano with Claude Debussy. Marguerite Long reminisces. **1.55** Debussy (12 Etudes)
2.40 The Ring According to Anna Russell: See Choice
3.00 The Koussevitzky Legacy: Humphrey Burton presents the tenth of 12 programmes. Milhaud (Symphony No 2: Paris Conservatoire Orchestra under Tzipine); Messiaen (Turangalila-symphonie. Yvonne Loriod, piano, Jeanne Loriod, ondes martenot; Toronto SO under Ozawa)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests, with Geoffrey Smith
5.45 Third Opinion: The arts programme discusses gender
6.30 Trio Sonata: Bach (Sonata in C, BWV 529: Peter Hurford, organ)
6.50 Live from the Met: Metropolitan Opera House Chorus and Orchestra under James Levine perform Wagner's *Das Rheingold*. With James Morris as Wotan, Alan Held as Donner, John Horton Murray as Froh and Philip Langridge as Loge
9.40 The Wolpert Conversations: The biologist Lewis Wolpert talks to Carlo Rubbia, the director of the European Laboratory for Particle Physics, about what compels him to drive deeper and deeper into the heart of matter
10.05 Italian Baroque Violin Sonatas: Elizabeth Wallfisch, violin, Richard Tunnicliffe, cello, Paul Nicholson, harpsichord/organ, perform Corelli (Sonata in D minor, Op 5 No 7), Locatelli (Sonata da camera in F, Op 6 No 2)
10.35 Musica Viva: In the first of two programmes, Boris Pergamenshikov, cello, with the Bavarian RSO under the composer, performs Cristobal Halffter (Cello Concerto No 2)
11.15 Giuffre-Bley-Swallow: Brian Morton introduces a recording of a concert given by Jimmy Giuffre, reeds, Paul Bley, piano, and Steve Swallow, bass, in London's Queen Elizabeth Hall
12.30-12.35am News

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.20** The Farming Week: Gill Powell visits Bury St Edmunds **6.50** Prayer for the Day **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.20** Listeners' Letters **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Sport on 4
9.30 Breakaway: Dilly Barlow participates in a murder-mystery weekend
10.00 News; Loose Ends: Conversation with Ned Sherrin
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster, with Peter Riddell
11.30 Europhile reports on nationalist fervour in Greece
12.00 Money Box, presented by Alison Mitchell
12.25pm The News Quiz: Chairman Barry Took quizzes team captains Richard Ingrams and Alan Coren and guests **12.55** Weather **1.00 News**
1.10 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a discussion between Professor Peter Hennessy, academic and broadcaster; Dominic Lawson, editor, *The Spectator*; Chris Smith, MP, shadow spokesman on environmental protection; and Baroness Perry of Southwark, vice-chancellor of South Bank University (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Any Answers? 071-580 4444 from 12.30pm
2.30 Playhouse: The Snatch. Kate Buffery and Siriol Jenkins star as expectant mothers in Gillian Richmond's play. Although complete strangers, their lives will soon become inextricably linked (r)
4.00 News; Age to Age examines the plight of the rural poor in the 19th century, and attitudes to the poor throughout history, and recalls the Victorian philanthropist Angela Burdett-Coutts
4.30 Science Now, presented by Peter Evans
5.00 Costing the Earth: The environmental programme
5.25 Fourth Column, with Simon Hoggart. Chris Matthews examines the week's events through the eyes of Raymond Chandler's private eye, Philip Marlowe **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News and **Sports Round-Up**
6.25 Week Ending (r)
6.50 Ad Lib: See Choice
7.20 Kaleidoscope: On the eve of his eightieth birthday, the Welsh poet R.S. Thomas talks to Ned Thomas and reads from his *Collected Poems*
7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: The Incarceration of Hubert Gray, by Shaun Prendergast. Gray (Nigel Anthony), a crooked financier, is forced to share a cell with a child murderer (played by the author)
9.05 Music in Mind: Brian Kay presents favourite melodies
9.50 Ten to Ten 9.59 Weather
10.00 News
10.15 Open Mind: Sarah Baxter and Henry Porter host a topical discussion
10.45 Rich Pickings: Strangers. Derek Jacobi and Haydn Gwynne read poetry and prose about relationships
11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes with James O'Donnell and Thomas Trotter (r)
11.30 Les and Robert: Dotty the Conkerer. The third of a four-part comedy thriller. With Robin Driscoll and Tony Haase
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

Ad Lib. *Radio 4, 6.50pm.*
Robert Robinson spends a rousing half hour tonight with trainee and fully-fledged nannies. His response to their revelations is characteristically unpredictable. Feigning outrage at being told that one nanny takes her tiny charge to watch cricket ("shocking! I've never heard the like before!"), he does not bat an eyelid when another nanny says that unless a quality car went with the job she would not consider the offer. He still enjoys his own play on words. "Ridding the affluent of the effluent", he says, about nappy-changing nannies.

The Ring According to Anna Russell. *Radio 3, 2.40pm.*
Depending on your sense of humour, here is the ultimate inducement either to listen to, or not to listen to, *Das Rheingold* at 6.50pm. The comedienne Anna Russell tells the stories of all four operas in the *Ring* cycle in 20 minutes flat. With devastating logic, she explains why, plot-wise, the *Ring*'s 20 hours are actually a waste of time. Her lightning sketches — the Rhine maidens as aquatic Andrews Sisters, Wotan as a crashing bore, the Rhine gold as a gimic — sometimes hit the nerve of truth as well as the funny bone. **Peter Davalle**

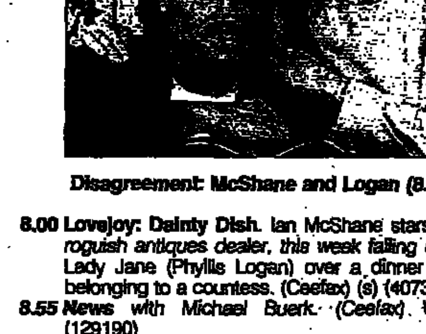
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SUNDAY TELEVISION AND RADIO

BBC1

7.30 Opposites Attract. The nature series looks at rabbits and badgers (r) (s) (5762193) **7.40 Felix the Cat** (5667549) **7.55 Playdays** (r) (8587848)
8.15 Breakfast with Frost. David Frost talks to people in the news including, this morning, Graham Gooch. With **News** and weather at **8.15** and **9.00** (871765)
9.15 People on the Way. Linda Mary Evans visits the Servite Priory, Benburb in Co Tyrone (s) (8250138)
10.00 See Hear! Clive Mason reports on the future of interpreter services in Britain (s) (54119)
10.30 Japanese Language and People (r) (24577). Wales: Computing for the Terrified
11.00 Computing for the Terrified (s) (9225). Wales: (to 12.30) See You Sunday
11.30 Business Matters. David Lomax talks to business guru Kenichi Ohmae (r). (Ceefax) (4634)
12.00 Advice Shop. Welfare rights (r) (48157)
12.30 CountryFile with John Craven (9045732). Wales: Down to Earth **12.55 Weather** (29476935)
1.00 News (87603022)
1.05 On the Record. Jonathan Dimbleby and John Cole analyse the week's political events (2912848)
2.00 EastEnders. Omnibus edition. (Ceefax) (s) (55848)
3.00 Film: Meet Me in St Louis (1944). Sparkling romantic musical charting a year in the life of an American family at the turn of the century. Starring Judy Garland and Margaret O'Brien. Directed by Vincent Minnelli (61166732)
4.50 A Song for Europe Preview presented by Terry Wogan. Sonia sings two more songs (s) (6626683)
5.00 The Clothes Show. The last programme of the series features the final of the Needlematch competition (s) (4046935)
5.25 Antiques Roadshow. Hugh Scully presents priceless gems from 150 editions of the series. (Ceefax) (s) (7252461)
6.10 News with Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather (562916)
6.25 Village Praise. Pam Rhodes visits Lindisfarne, Bamburgh and Seahouses on the Northumberland coast. (Ceefax) (s) (381567)
7.00 Last of the Summer Wine. Roy Clarke's OAP comedy starring Bill Owen, Peter Sallis and Brian Wilde (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6770)
7.30 A Year in Provence: Daylight Robbery. The fifth episode in a 12-part dramatisation of Peter Mayle's autobiographical account of Provençal life. Starring John Thaw and Lindsay Duncan. (Ceefa) (s) (935)

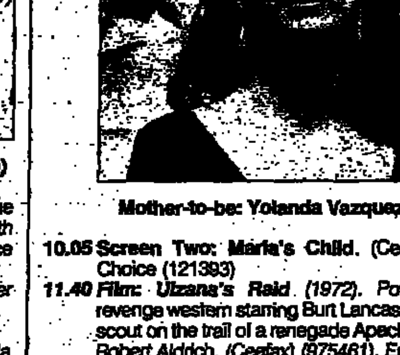


Disagreement: McShane and Logan (8.00pm)

8.00 Lovejoy: Dainty Dish. Ian McShane stars as the roguish antiques dealer, this week falling out with Lady Jane (Phyllis Logan) over a dinner service belonging to a countess. (Ceefax) (s) (407312)
8.55 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Weather (129190)
9.10 You, Me and It. (Ceefax) See Choice (377139)
10.05 Mastermind. The specialist subjects are Golda Meir, Sir Edward Elgar, the Waterloo Campaign of 1815 and the Kings of Israel and Judah (s) (934288)
10.35 Everyman: Living for Jason. A couple's four-year-old son is dying (r). (Ceefax) (404732)
11.15 Shakespeare: The Animated Tales. The first of six cartoons is a Soviet version of A Midsummer Night's Dream (r). (Ceefax) (s) (738119)
11.40 Cats. How cats became domesticated (r) (891312)
12.10am Weather (4216639). Ends at 12.30
2.00-2.30 BBC Select: Computer Look (46338)

BBC2

6.15 Open University: Chemistry — Crystals (3928044) **6.40** Maths — Looking at Equations (4975003) **7.05** Music — Cadences (3450003) **7.30** A New Role for Men (7559916) **7.55** Venice and Antwerp (8592770) **8.20** Reconstructing Shakespeare's Theatres (5464190) **8.45** Kerala — Where Literacy Pays Off (4473022)
9.10 The Family Ness. Cartoon (r) (1714664) **9.15 The Animals of Farthing Wood.** Penultimate episode (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3312157) **9.40 Time Busters** (8749409) **10.05 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles.** Cartoon (r). (Ceefax) (s) (7850867)
10.30 Century Falls. Last episode of the science-fiction adventure series (5809206) **10.55 Blue Peter.** Omnibus (s) (8377138)
11.45 The O-Zone. Music from Gloria Estefan and Arrested Development (s) (2755596)
12.00 Thunderbirds (r). (Ceefax) (3496312)
12.55 Athletics. Commentary on the men's and women's races in the world cross-country championship in Amorebieta, Spain (7095935)
2.00 Regional Westminster Programmes (6616). Northern Ireland: Dull Sa Duira; 2.15 Start Your Own Religion. Wales: Week in Week Out (r)
2.30 Ski Sunday. The season climaxes with the men's and women's downhill events from Are in Sweden. Introduced by Julian Tutt (2809867)
3.15 Rugby Special. Chris Rea introduces highlights from the concluding matches in the Hong Kong Sevens, followed at **5.00** by highlights of the match between Wasps and Northampton (s) (19393022)
6.10 The Natural World: Sanctuaries of Defence. Land owned by the military can provide a safe haven for Britain's wildlife. (Ceefax) (s) (191428)
7.00 The Money Programme David Strahan reports on road privatisation (104312)
7.40 The Nineties: And They Sailed Away. (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (515770)
8.20 Every Picture Tells a Story: The Two Belles. The first of six programmes dramatising the stories behind important works of art looks at Leonardo da Vinci's La Belle Ferronière. (Ceefax) (s) (465461)
9.00 Brazilian Grand Prix. Highlights from Interlagos, São Paulo (986225)
9.35 Did You See..? Jeremy Paxman and guests review Horizon and Goggle Eyes on BBC2, and Channel 4's The Word. With biographer Victoria Glendinning, Christopher Frayling of the Royal College of Art, and shoe designer Patrick Cox (s) (421461)



Mother-to-be: Yolanda Vazquez (10.05pm)

10.05 Screen Two: Maria's Child. (Ceefax) (s). See Choice (121393)
11.40 Film: Ulzana's Raid (1972). Powerful, violent revenge western starring Burt Lancaster as an aging scout on the trail of a renegade Apache. Directed by Robert Aldrich. (Ceefax) (975461). Ends at **1.25am**

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CHOICE



Baby blues: Burden and Wilby (BBC1, 9.10pm)

You Me and It
BBC1, 9.10pm

I do not know whether the scheduling was deliberate but the drama subjects on BBC tonight are infertility on this channel and abortion on BBC2. The couple who cannot have a child in *You Me and It* are thirtysomethings Charlie and Barbara (James Wilby and Suzanne Burden). In Andrew Payne's script they are constantly reminded of the fact by parents looking forward to being grandparents, other people's children and tactless friends. The infertility specialist Robert Winston is credited as medical adviser and however much it tries to hide the fact, the drama does have the whiff of a case study. But there are two episodes to go, by which time Rory Bremner's straight acting debut may have got beyond the bit-part stage.

Maria's Child
BBC2, 10.05pm

The woman facing the abortion dilemma in this film from writer-director Malcolm McKay is a dancer called Maria (Yolanda Vazquez). Like *You Me and It* this is something of a case history, with the Roman Catholic mother-to-be running the full gauntlet of religious and family disapproval. She is even denounced from the pulpit by Father Alec McCowen. But since she became pregnant in a casual liaison with a man she had never met before and never sees again, you may think that she deserves most of what she gets. If so *Maria's Child* will be less than involving. If not, McKay's scenario may stand as a convincing examination of an anguished moral choice. Fiona Shaw is underemployed as Maria's sympathetic GP.

The Nineties: And They Sailed Away
BBC2, 7.40pm

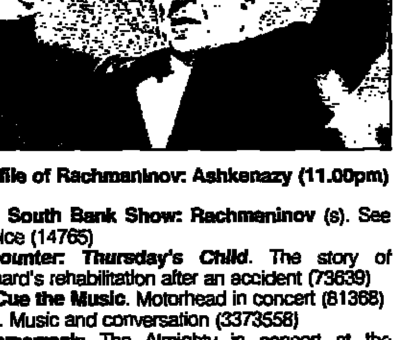
A new oral history series in the tradition of the excellent *A Labour of Love* uses the memories of Britain's oldest citizens to evoke distant experiences of such subjects as alcohol, courtship, medicine, seaside holidays and death. Tonight's theme is venturing to foreign lands and it is explored through a remarkable quintet of sisters whose ages range from 90 to 100. One became the first woman to get a degree in Sanskrit and married the future Bishop of Uganda. Another qualified as a doctor and two more became teachers. Their overseas destinations included Canada, the Gold Coast and Nigeria. The film is rich in evidence about the British imperial past and the opportunities open to educated women in the pre-feminist era.

The South Bank Show: Rachmaninov
ITV, 11.00pm

The Russian composer and pianist is profiled on the fiftieth anniversary of his death. The film has two thrusts. One is to rescue Rachmaninov from critical neglect. The other is to stress that behind the lyricism of his music lay sadness, melancholy and even despair. Both tasks are entrusted to Vladimir Ashkenazy, a fellow Russian, a fellow pianist and a fellow exile. Apart from being all these things Ashkenazy is also a huge admirer. Excerpts from the Rachmaninov repertoire are set against a potted history of the composer's life, which is irritatingly sketchy on such important details as why he left the Soviet Union in 1917. But the music is the thing. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV. The guests include Neil Kinnock, celebrating his 51st birthday, and his wife Glenys (46740770)
8.55 Disney Club. Andrea Boardman, Paul Hendy and Richard Orford present studio fun, cartoons and music from Betty Boo (95148867)
10.45 Link Stan Vasey investigates whether disabled people should be paid so that they can hire their own care assistants (Teletext) (2644374)
11.00 A Meditation: Where Am I Going? Lord Healey and Tommy Taylor, a blind former POW, talk about the meaning of life. (Teletext) (s) (60022)
12.00 This Sunday Paul Heiney and Jenni Murray host the religious magazine (33225)
12.30 Crosstalk. Peter Allen talks to Bryan Gould, Labour MP for Dagenham (51119)
1.00 ITN News with Dermot Murnaghan. Weather (57967770)
1.10 Walden. Brian Walden asks Robin Cook, the shadow trade and industry minister, what Labour would do for industry (s) (6088931)
2.00 The Smurfs Cartoon adventures (r) (7022)
2.30 The London Match: West Ham v Millwall. Ian St John presents live coverage of the Barclays League match from Upton Park, with commentary by Brian Moore. Gabriel Clarke reports on local matches and presents highlights of the Anglo-Italian cup final and the first division clash between Newcastle and Birmingham (s) (720664)
5.00 Wish You Were Here..? Jason Donovan reports from the Indonesian island of Bali (r) (8374)
5.30 Survival: Secret Weapons Animals rely on more than speed and stamina to catch their prey. John Sachs narrates. (Teletext) (954)
6.00 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart (207577)
6.20 News with Julia Somerville Weather (113799)
6.30 Murder, She Wrote: The Skinny According to Nick Cullhane Angela Lansbury stars as the crime writer and amateur sleuth Jessica Fletcher. A writer reveals the truth about a kidnap scam, and is subsequently murdered. (Teletext) (s) (609157)
7.25 Watching: Wandering Too. Concluding a two-part story in the romantic comedy series. Starring Paul Bown and Emma Wray (Teletext) (257867)
7.55 The Darling Buds of May: Climb the Greasy Pole David Jason and Pam Ferris star in the first of a two-part story (Teletext) (s) (725954)
8.55 Maigret. Michael Gambon as Georges Simenon's French detective is accused of attempting to seduce the niece of a high-ranking government official (Teletext) (s) (749935)
9.55 Aspel and Company. Michael Aspel talks to musician Peter Gabriel and comedy writer and actor Eric Idle (385848)
10.40 News with Julia Somerville. Weather (473472)



Profile of Rachmaninov: Ashkenazy (11.00pm)

11.00 The South Bank Show: Rachmaninov (s). See Choice (14765)
12.00 Encounter: Thursday's Child. The story of Richard's rehabilitation after an accident (73639)
12.30am Cue the Music. Motorhead in concert (81368)
1.35 TXT. Music and conversation (3373558)
2.35 Summerrock: The Almighty in concert at the Roskilde Festival (8698368)
3.30 Snooker. John Parrott v Peter Ebdon (77766)
5.30 ITN Morning News (74368). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Trans World Sport (r) (1119954) **6.55 Dennis** Cartoon (r) (3754935) **7.05 The Wombles** (r) (3979461) **7.10 Widget** (s) (3460480) **7.35 Sandokan** (7554848) **8.05 The Hammerman** (7016867) **8.30 Strangers.** Third of a six-part children's drama (20751) **9.00 Tintin** (11003) **9.30 Dennis** (r) (4124577)
9.45 Flipper. Adventures of the playful dolphin (802374)
10.15 The Lone Ranger: Texas Draw (b/w). Clayton Moore stars as the masked avenger (827683)
10.45 Land of the Giants: The Golden Cage. Science-fiction series (r) (126472)
11.45 Little House on the Prairie: The Aftermath. The adventures of the pioneering Ingalls family in the Wild West. Mary is taken hostage. Starring Michael Landon (726436)
12.45 Film: Wait 'Til the Sun Shines, Nellie (1952). Nostalgic drama focusing on a small-town barber's memories of the past 50 years. Starring David Wayne, Jean Peters and Hugh Marlowe. Directed by Henry King (237751)
2.45 Gazzetta Football Italia Live coverage of the game between Torino and AC Milan (31473916)
5.05 The Opinions Debate: Britain — What's Wrong, What's Right, What's Next? Vincent Hanna concludes the series on the state of Britain by chairing a public debate from Central Hall, Westminster. The panellists are Sheila McKechnie, director of Shelter, John Burrow, chief constable of Essex, film director Michael Winner, former defence minister Alan Clark, chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks and Scottish rock singer Pat Kane (5887472)
6.00 Moviewatch. Four London cinema-goers review Wittgenstein, Night of the Living Dead, The Jungle Book and Used People (s) (409)
6.30 The Wonder Years: Alice in Autoland. Fred Savage stars in the nostalgic American comedy series (Teletext) (461)
7.00 Fragile Earth: Safari. Tourism in Kenya can be very profitable. It can also cause untold damage to the environment (r) (Teletext) (s) (4409)



Home sweet home: Gabrielle Sanders (8.00pm)

8.00 Gimme Shelter. A two-week season of programmes on homelessness begins with **Raising the Roof** The first in a series of daily reports on the progress of a group of people struggling to build their own homes. Presented by Gabrielle Sanders (Teletext) (5428)
8.30 Benny Hill Comedy highlights. (Teletext) (4935)
9.00 Lipstick on Your Collar. The final episode of Dennis Potter's provocative musical drama series set in the fifties. Starring Giles Thomas and Louise Germaine. (Teletext) (s) (7425770)
10.20 Film: Chicago Joe and the Showgirl (1989). Ponderous crime drama about an aspiring young actress and an American serviceman in wartime London, whose romance leads to murder. Starring Emily Lloyd and Kiefer Sutherland. Directed by Bernard Rose (988515)
12.15am Film: Halfaouine (1990). The African season continues with a Franco-Tunisian film about the sexual awakening of a boy living in the Arab quarter of Tunis. With English subtitles. Directed by Férid Boughedir (272542). Ends at **2.00**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Food Guide (9070428) **2.00** Highway to Heaven (40916) **3.00** Film: The Bridges at Toko-Ri (98409) **5.00** Survival (8374) **5.30** Bullseye (954) **6.00-6.20** Anglia News (207577) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77504) **1.30** Film: Dead End (604813) **3.10** Entertainment UK (4399964) **4.10** Sex Symbols II (9565558) **4.55-5.30** America's Top Ten (9414691)

BORDER
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Gardener's Diary (9070428) **2.00** Conference Report (7022) **2.30** Wish You Were Here..? (138) **3.00** Love at First Sight (6157) **3.30** Cartoon Time (2961799) **3.35** Highway to Heaven (8169916) **4.30** Survival (374) **5.00** Scotsport (7409) **6.00-6.20** The Border Week (591428) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77504) **1.30** Film: Dead End (604813) **3.10** Entertainment UK (4399964) **4.10** Sex Symbols II (9565558) **4.55-5.30** America's Top Ten (9414691)

CENTRAL
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Gardening Time (9070428) **2.00** Earthfile (23913799) **2.15** The Central Match — Live: Newcastle v Birmingham (30781886) **5.05** Survival (8149041) **5.35-6.20** Highway to Heaven (439190) **12.30** Prisoner: Cell Block H (5831610) **1.25** Island Son (5794287) **2.20** Cue the Music (4535828) **3.25** ITV Chart Show (6628788) **4.20** Jobfinder (7892436) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2414417)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.25-1.00 What the MPs Say (3506461) **2.00** Granada Action (7022) **2.30** Film: Satan Never Sleeps (31403157) **4.45** Bullseye (714770) **5.15-6.20** Coronation Street (942751) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77504) **1.30** Film: Dead End (604813) **3.10** Entertainment UK (4399964) **4.10** Sex Symbols II (9565558) **4.55-5.30** America's Top Ten (9414691)

HTV WEST
As London except: 12.30-1.00 HTV Newsweek (51119) **2.00** Wrestling (9260916) **2.45** The West Match: Live: Bristol City v Grimsby Town (62367935) **5.30** Cartoons (322119) **5.45-6.20** Survival (710954) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77504) **1.30** Film: Dead End (604813) **3.10** Entertainment UK (4399964) **4.10** Sex Symbols II (956558) **4.55-5.30** America's Top Ten (9414691)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 12.30-1.00 Playback **2.00** Soccer Sunday **2.45** Film: The Last Unicorn **4.15-5.45** Film: Isn't Life Wonderful? (Donald Wolfit, Cecil Parker, Eileen Herlie)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 12.30 Meridian This Week (1783848) **12.50-1.00** Meridian News (35048206) **2.00** Highway to Heaven (7469916) **2.55** Film: Let's Do It Again (92023683) **5.00** Country Ways (5441480) **5.15** Survival (711683) **5.45-6.20** Loud and Clear (710954) **12.30** ITV Chart Show (81368) **1.30** Film: Turn the Key Softly (690233) **3.05** Kojak (6631252) **4.00** The Pier (3242558) **4.35-5.00** Videofashion

TYNE TEES
As London except: 12.25 Tyne Tees News Review (3522409) **12.50-1.00** Tyne Tees News (35048206) **2.00** Film: A Mother's Courage (7469916) **2.55** The Tyne Tees Match: Newcastle United v Birmingham City (31495138) **5.20** Survival (4042119) **5.50-6.20** A Woman's Place (791190) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Memories of 1980 **2.05-4.40** Film: Apman Ki Aag (12490287)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Westwise (9070428) **2.00** Westcountry Update (7022) **2.30** Film: Call to Glory (65567848) **4.15** Highway to Heaven (953667) **5.15** Survival (711683) **5.45-6.10** On the Road to the Islands (710954) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (77504) **1.30** Film: Dead End (604813) **3.10** Entertainment UK (4399964) **4.10** Sex Symbols II (9565558) **4.55-5.30** America's Top Ten (9414691)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.25 The Littlest Hobo (3522409) **12.50-1.00** Calendar News (35048206) **2.00** Film: A Mother's Courage (7469916) **2.55** Your Match: Bradford City v West Bromwich Albion (31495138) **5.20** Survival (4042119) **5.50-6.20** Calendar (715770) **12.30** Quiz Night (38078) **1.00** Memories of 1980 (70252) **2.00** Zara Dhyan Dein (3801436) **2.05** Film: Apman Ki Aag (12490287) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (87813)

S4C
Starts: 7.05 The Wombles (3979461) **7.10** Widget (3460480) **7.35** Sandokan (7554848) **8.05** Hammerman (7016867) **8.30** Strangers (20751) **9.00** Jeifin (11003) **9.30** Dennis (4124577) **9.45** Flipper (802374) **10.15** The Lone Ranger (827683) **10.45** Land of the Giants (126472) **11.45** Little House on the Prairie (726436) **12.45** Siarad Plaen (9066225) **1.10** Magic Roundabout (87692916) **1.15** Eerie, Indiana (166206) **1.45** Fragile Earth (332225) **2.45** Football Italia (52811003) **5.00** Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol (6916) **5.30** Pobol Y Cwm (26170409) **7.15** Bwrw'r Sul (760515) **8.05** Hel Straeon (982461) **8.35** Siarad Am Ylory (354916) **9.25** Newyddion (426916) **9.30** Saith Diwrnod Ar Y Sul (814157) **9.45** The New Statesman (825111) **10.15** Porterhouse Blue (214480) **11.15** ENG (684041) **12.10** High Interest (5064879) **12.50-1.05** Gimme Shelter: Raising the Roof (3969894)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am Hour of Power (59409) **7.00** Fun Factory (4134022) **11.30** The Brady Bunch (98190) **12.00** WWF Challenge (18428) **1.00pm** Robin of Sherwood (94848) **2.00** Trapper John (88190) **3.00** Xposure (3461) **3.30** Fashion TV (2683) **4.00** UK Top 40 (11041) **5.00** All American Wrestling (7041) **6.00** The Simpsons (79652) **7.00** 21 Jump Street (37577) **8.00** Doubletake. First of a two-part mini series starring Richard Crenna and Beverly D'Angelo (40041) **10.00** Wiseguy (36848) **11.00** Hill Street Blues (16461) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (78022) **6.30** News and Business Report (412428) **9.30** Frost on Sunday (92565) **11.30** Talking with David Frost: Clint Eastwood (82157) **12.30pm** Talking with David Frost (42751) **1.30** Target (43480) **2.30** Roving Report (79022) **3.30** The Lords (42770) **5.00** Live at Five (65119) **6.30** Talking with David Frost (87041) **7.30** Talking with David Frost (6645) **9.30** Target (83886) **10.30** Roving Report (70190) **11.30** Talking with David Frost (73799) **12.30am** Talking with David Frost (64794) **1.30** ABC News (72417) **2.30** Target (95417) **3.30** ABC News (90962) **4.30** The National Gallery (35748) **5.30-6.00** Beyond 2000 (62392)

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.30am Showcase (78732)
8.00 Primo Baby (1989). A teenage girl trains a blind racehorse (82670)
10.00 Defending Your Life (1991). Albert Brooks and Meryl Streep meet on the way to Heaven (29139)
12.00 Mister Johnson (1991). An African man's ambitions are thwarted (92393)
2.00pm A Girl of the Limberlost (1990) Heather Fairfield has to care for her widowed mother, Annette O'Toole (50428)
4.00 White Fang (1991) Ethan Hawke befriends a wolf dog (9545)
6.00 Talent for the Game (1991). Baseball scout Edward James Olmos discovers Jeff Corbett (73577)
7.30 Xposure Film news (3799)
8.00 Mermaids (1990). Comedy-drama starring Cher, Winona Ryder and Bob Hoskins (42409)
10.00 Out for Justice (1991) Steven Seagal fights William Forsythe on the streets of Brooklyn (85312)
11.30 In Broad Daylight (1991) Brian Dennehy as a small-town thug (885374)
1.05am Freeway Maniac (1988): A man embarks on a killing spree (2799455)
2.35 Daddy's Dyin'... Who's Got the Will? (1990) Death-bed farce starring Beau Bridges and Keith Carradine (6424233)
4.05 The Delinquents (1989) Kylie Minogue elopes with Charlie Schlatter (286542) Ends at 5.45

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm Random Harvest (1942, b/w). Amnesiac Ronald Colman starts a new life with Greer Garson (37513312)
6.15 Raffles (1939, b/w) David Niven as the gentleman cat burglar (55036225)
8.00 Ode to Billy Joe (1976) Love story based on Bobby Gentry's song (26409)
10.00 Midnight Express (1978) Brad Davis is arrested for drug smuggling in Turkey (413490). Ends at **11.45**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Cleopatra (1934, b/w) Starring Claudette Colbert (73454)
8.00 The Big Broadcast of 1937 (1936, b/w). Variety film with Jack Benny (82652)
10.00 Belle of the Yukon (1944, b/w) Gypsy Rose Lee tames crooked saloon owner Randolph Scott (46157)
11.30 The Electric Horseman (1980): Robert Redford steals a thoroughbred (90899848)
1.50pm Avalon (1990). Nostalgic drama about an extended Jewish family (33882596)
4.00 Where the Red Fern Grows (1990). A disabled second world war veteran returns home. Starring Wilford Brimley (3765)
6.00 Vital Signs (1990) Hospital drama starring Jimmy Smits (38206)
8.00 City Slickers (1991) Male-bonding comedy starring Billy Crystal and Jack Palance (33751)
10.00 Deadly Game (1991) A group of people fight to survive on a millionaire's island. Starring Roddy McDowall (490935)
11.40 Meeting Venus (1991). Comedy in which conductor Niels Arestrup falls for diva Glenn Close (646312)
1.40am I Posed for Playboy (1991) Three women explain why (224691)
3.20 The Hurricane (1937, b/w). A storm threatens an island. Starring Dorothy Lamour (354748) Ends at **5.00**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Fishing the West (32935) **7.00** Rugby League Academy (65751) **9.00** Jack High (38428) **10.00** The Boot Room (56515) **10.30** Trucks 'n' Tractor Power (83683) **11.00** Red Line (64022) **12.00** Bullriders (26886) **1.00pm** Snowboarding (75138) **1.30** Netbusters (46802) **2.00** Irish Snooker (163515) **5.00** Goal — Fila Quiz (7206) **5.30** Fishing the West (9770) **6.00** Muscle Night (15770) **7.00** The Big League (56003) **9.00** US PGA Golf (703157) **12.00-2.00am** German League Football (45455)

EUROSPORT
7.00am Step Aerobics (61935) **7.30** Motor Cycling (73770) **8.00** Skiing (3841119) **12.30pm** Motor Cycling (50549) **1.00** Ski Jumping (60206) **1.30** Brazilian Grand Prix (91190) **2.00** Tennis (92428) **4.00** Skiing (45751) **5.00** Brazilian Grand Prix (80596) **7.00** Tennis (81799) **9.00** Motor Cycling (43664) **10.30** Cross Country Athletics (64138) **11.30-1.30am** Grand Prix (28041)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (52792935) **6.15** Button Moon (52780190) **6.30** Michael Bentine's Potty Time (8501596) **7.00** Chocky (2921393) **7.30** Owl TV (2940428) **8.00** Lassie (1557138) **8.30** Rentaghost (1556409) **9.00** Film The Chiltern Hundreds (1949, b/w) (4363206) **10.30** Film: The Stratton Story (1949, b/w) (8770157) **12.30pm** Film On the Beat (1962, b/w) (8753480) **2.30** Sharon and Elsie (5174225) **3.00** The Bill Omnibus (5021935) **5.30** Anne of Avonlea (4806916) **6.30** The District Nurse (5166206) **7.00** Sorry! (2482867) **7.30** Sharon and Elsie (5155190) **8.00** To Serve Them All My Days (2236119) **9.00** Film: The Falcon and the Snowman (1985) starring Timothy Hutton (5447645) **11.30** The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy (8581732) **12.00** Alas Smith and Jones (1686233) **12.30-1.30am** In Concert, Stevie Nicks (8644252)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Stories Without Words (52022) **6.30** Cartoon Classics (86515) **7.00** The Best of Jack in the Box (76525) **7.30** David the Gnome (87732) **8.00** The Berenstain Bears (13848) **8.30** Barnyard Commandos (12119) **9.00** Gravedale High (61770) **10.00** The Smoggies (83916) **11.00** Bravestarr (96480) **12.00** Cartoon Classics (1431637) **12.55pm** Interbang (3851683) **1.20** Okavango (1304913) **2.15** Earthworks (425374) **2.45** The Haunted Mansion Mystery (9047157) **3.35** Round the Bend (4824041) **4.05** Chicken Minute (5644157) **4.30** Shadows (5732) **5.00** TVFM (7848) **5.30** Fifteen (93121) **6.00-7.00** Fame (57770)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Class in Britain Today **6.55** Weather
7.00 Sunday Morning Concert: Glinka (Overture, Ruslan and Ludmila); Debussy (Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune); Dvořák (Overture, The Noonday Witch); Grieg (Piano Concerto in A minor); Tchaikovsky (Fantasy Overture, Romeo and Juliet); Mussorgsky, orch Ravel (Pictures from an Exhibition)
9.00 News 9.05 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning: Schubert (Overture, Rosamunde); Artists of the Week: Nash Ensemble performs Saint-Saëns (Pianists; Fossils; The Swan; Finale, Carnival of the Animals); Abel (Symphony No 5 in C); **9.33** *Composer of the Week* preview: Rachmaninov (Prelude in C sharp minor, Op 3 No 2); Dukas (L'Apprenti sorcier); Bach (Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582); Haydn, arr Dittrich (Eight Zingarese, H IX 28); Quilter (Three English Dances); **10.24** Schubert (Adagio in E flat); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 4 in F minor); Anon (Surrexit de Tumulo; Agnus Dei; Fa Fa Mi Fa); **11.26** Beethoven, arr Bellison (Variations on La ci darem la mano); Rossini (L'Italiana in Algeri, Act 1, sc 10-13)
12.00 Spirit of the Age: Christopher Page and José Carlos Cabello consider the musical tradition of El Escorial since the era of Philip II **1.00pm News**
1.05 Replay: Desmond MacCarthy reflects on "tears" in life and literature
1.25 From the Proms 1992: BBC Scottish SO under Maksymiuk performs Mussorgsky (A Night on the Bare Mountain); Lutoslawski (Livre pour orchestre); Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 4 in G minor); Sibelius (Symphony No 7 in C). Including at **2.00** Interval Reading (r)
3.00 Early English Keyboard Music: David Roblou, harpsichord. Anon (My Lady Wynkfyld's Rownde); Aston (A Hornpype); Byrd (Prelude, Pavan and Galliard, Sir William Petre); Tomkins (A sad pavan for these distracted times); Byrd (O Mistress Mine) (r)
3.30 Towards the Millenium: Nash Ensemble under Andrew Parrott performs Hindemith (Kleine Kammermusik for wind quintet, Op 24 No 2); Schoenberg (Suite for seven instruments, Op 29); **4.20** Interval; **4.25** Walton (Façade)
5.15 Mozart Transformations: Mozart (Trio in F, transcribed from Divertimento, K439b); Reicha (18 Variations and a Fantasy, Op 51, on a theme from Le Nozze di Figaro)
5.45 The Elastic Band: The virtuoso chamber orchestra in the 20th century
6.30 BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis performs Schubert (Overture, Die Freunde von Salamanka); Schoenberg (Chamber Symphony No 2); Haydn (Symphony No 91 in E flat) (r)
7.30 Sunday Play: Offa's Daughter. See Choice
9.10 Arvo Pärt: St John Passion (BBC singers under Bo Holten)
10.35 Martin Roscoe, piano, plays Bach (Toccata in D, BWV 912); Nielsen (Chaconne, Op 32); Beethoven (32 Variations in C minor, WoO 80); Busoni (Toccata) (r)
11.25 Music in Our Time: The final programme celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Society for the Promotion of New Music **12.30am News**

Sunday Play: Offa's Daughter. *Radio 3, 7.30pm.*
As you would expect from the poet who wrote that elemental novel *Ulverton*, Adam Thorpe's new radio play is history made vivid. Like some latter-day Victor Frankenstein, he reanimates the dead past with lightning flashes and thunder claps. In *Offa's Daughter*, the tale-teller is the 9th century English monk (Richard Johnson, in old age, and Linus Roache, when young) who is left physically and mentally scarred by his brief encounter in Italy with the destructive Eadburgh, legendary queen of all Britain (Siân Phillips and Tara Fitzgerald).

The Unopened Casebook of Sherlock Holmes. *Radio 5, 9.30am.*
The Battersea Worm is the sixth and last of John Taylor's more or less successful assumptions of the mantle of Conan Doyle. The plots have been ingenious enough, in all conscience. Tonight's is about a murder carried out in an impregnable tower. What one misses are those occasional pauses for contemplative deduction that characterise the Conan Doyle stories. Taylor whips everything along at the breakneck speed set, in their dialogue, by Simon Callow's Holmes and Nicky Henson's Dr Watson. **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 4

5.55am *Shipping Forecast* **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Prelude with Marjorie Lofthouse **6.30** News; Morning Has Broken, incl Bells on Sunday from St Paul's Cathedral, London **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** On Your Farm: Robin Page talks to the botanist and wild flower expert Miriam Rothschild **7.40** Sunday **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 Judi Dench talks for the *Week's Good Cause* about the Low Pay Research Trust **8.55** Weather
9.00 News 9.10 Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Morning Service: Places of the Passion. A series of devotional services for Lent
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition
11.15 News Stand, presented by Jay Rayner
11.30 *Pick of the Week, with Chris Serle (r)*
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is Sir Isaiah Berlin (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend, with Nick Clarke **1.55** Shipping
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: Members of the Braunston Village Gardens Association in Northamptonshire put their questions to Dr Stefan Buczacki, Sue Phillips and Fred Downham. With Clay Jones in the chair
2.30 Classic Serial: Memoirs of a Midget. Emma Fielding stars in the final part of an adaptation of Walter de la Mare's novel
3.30 The Radio Programme, presented by Laurie Taylor
4.00 News; Analysis: Out of the Red. John Lloyd investigates radical market reforms in Russia (r)
4.47 Treasure Islands: Michael Rosen talks to authors and publishers about freedom of expression in children's books
5.00 News; *Down Your Drain:* Dr Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, explores London's sewers (r)
5.30 Poetry Please! Simon Rae introduces requests and talks to the poet Matthew Sweeney **5.50** *Shipping* **5.55** *Weather*
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.15 Feedback, presented by Chris Dunkley (r)
6.30 Europhile (r)
7.00 In Business: Peter Day investigates the prosecution of fraudsters (r)
7.30 Bookshelf: Nigel Forde examines the book review business (r)
8.00 Punters, with Susan Marling
8.30 Reading Aloud: The Endless Knot. A mountaineering love story by Kurt Diemberger. Read by Frederick Jaeger
9.00 The Natural History Programme, presented by Jessica Holm (r)
9.30 Special Assignment (r) **9.59** *Weather* **10.00 News**
10.15 To the Tempest Given: Biographer Richard Holmes reconstructs the emotional and artistic turmoil of Shelley's last weeks in Italy. With Michael Maloney, Selina Cadell, Christopher Bramwell, Moir Leslie and Nigel Anthony (r)
11.00 In Committee, presented by Carolyn Quinn
11.30 Seeds of Faith: *Honest to God* by John Robinson, the Bishop of Woolwich, was published 30 years ago. Alan Race, director of studies of the Southwark Ordination Course, which John Robinson founded, picks up the trail
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1
FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Steve Edwards (FM only until **6.00am**) **7.00** Neale James **10.00** *Dave Lee Travis* **1.00pm** *Number Ones on 1 FM* **2.30** Rockline with Neale James **4.00** The UK Top 40 with Bruno Brookes **7.00** Pete Tong's Essential Selection **9.00** Anne Nightingale's Request Show **10.00** Gary Davies (FM only from **12.00**) **1.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2
FM Stereo. **4.00am** Barbara Sturgeon **7.00** Don Maclean **9.05** John Sachs **10.30** Hayes on Sunday **12.00-7.00pm** The Vintage Years. *Desmond Carrington with Radio 2 All-Time Greats.* **2.00pm** *Benny Green;* **3.00** *Alan Dell with Sounds Easy;* **4.00** Gems of Operetta (2/6); **4.30** Sing Something Simple. **5.00** Charlie Chester **7.00** Richard Baker with Melodies for You **8.30** Sunday Half Hour **9.00** Alan Keith with Your Hundred Best Tunes **10.00** Radio 2 Arts Programme: P.G. Wodehouse **12.05am** Nick Barraclough's New Country (r) **12.35** Charles Nove **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5
News and sport on the hour until **2.00pm. 6.00am** World Service **6.30** Mark Curry's Weekend Edition **9.30** *The Unopened Casebook of Sherlock Holmes: See Choice* **10.00** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **11.30** Fantasy Football League **12.30pm** Simon Fanshawe's Sunday Brunch **1.40** Open Forum **2.00** Money Talk **2.30** They Think It's All Over **3.00** Sunday Sport. Eleanor Oldroyd presents commentary on the Brazilian Grand Prix **7.00** Sportsdesk **7.20** Open University: George Green — The Miller Mathematician, **7.40** Art Works; **8.00** Language in *Hard Times,* **8.20** Feminist Debates — Psychoanalysis; **8.40** Transforming Graphs **9.00** Open Forum **9.20** *The Dreaming of the Bones,* by W.B. Yeats **9.40** Understanding Society — Talking to Michael Mann **10.10** Across the Line, incl **11.00** Sport **12.00-12.10am** News, Sport

WORLD SERVICE
All times in **BST. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Sunday Features **5.30** Short Story: It is Essential That She Has a Child **5.45** A Taste of Soul **6.00** News **7.10** News About Britain **7.15** Letter from America **7.30** Jazz for the Asking **8.00** News **8.30** From Our Own Correspondent **8.50** Write On **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Classics with Kay **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Review **10.15** Short Story: It is Essential That She Has a Child **10.30** Folk Routes **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.01** Science in Action **10.30** BBC English **11.45** News and British Press Review in German **Noon** News **12.30pm** The Ken Bruce Show **1.00** News **1.01** Play of the Week: The Pipsqueak **2.00** News **3.01** Heritage **3.30** Anything Goes **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** News **5.10** News About Britain **5.15** Indians Abroad **5.45** Letter from America **6.00** BBC English **6.30** News and Features in German **8.00** Eastern Sounds **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** News **9.10** Folk Routes **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** Ned Sherrin's Counterpoint **10.00** News **11.10** News About Britain **11.15** Short Story: It is Essential That She Has a Child **11.30** Letter from America **11.45** Sport **Midnight** News **12.05am** World Business Review **2.15** Classics With Kay **1.00** News **1.30** In Praise of God **2.00** News **2.01** Images of Debussy **2.45** Mastersingers **3.00** News **3.30** Composer of the Month: Ludwig Van Beethoven **4.00** News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** Sport

CLASSIC FM
6.00am *Sarah Lucas* **9.00** *Classic Romance* **12.00** CD Dedications **2.00pm** Celebrity Choice **3.00** Robert Booth **7.00** Authentic Performance **8.00** Classic FM Concert. Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 2. Vladimir Ashkenazy) **10.00** Contemporary Classics **12.00-6.00am** Andre Leon

FREQUENCIES: RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102.

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A song, a speech and a segue

Lynne Truss packs up her lipstick, grabs her trophy and takes her leave before she gets elbowed off by the Bafta hostess



TV REVIEW

I WILL never forget the first time I came across the word "segue". I was editing a book review with my customary zeal ("I suspected as much! A dangling modifier!"), when I came across this word "segue" and it brought me up short. In fact, my pencil braked and skidded so abruptly on the paper that there was an audible squeal. "*At this point*," ran the mysterious copy, "*McMann segues neatly from Virginia Woolf to Katherine Mansfield.*"

Well, of course, I phoned up the writer immediately. For all I knew, this word might bring a blush to the cheek of a young person. "What's this *seeg*, then?" I demanded, in a stern voice. By reply, the author's silent embarrassment was so intense I could feel the heat coming out of my receiver. "Oh, um, *seg-way*, um, it's a musical term. *Seg-way*. It's when you are playing 'Melancholy Baby', you know, and you go straight, or segway, into another tune, such as 'Boiled Beef and Carrots'." I harrumphed impatiently. "It's quite well established in everyday speech," he ventured, poor over-educated baby. I narrowed my eyes. "Well I still don't like it," I said, crossing it out so firmly I made a hole. "It looks too much like *seeg*."

Funny how you can take against words when they make you feel ignorant. In Dennis Potter's *Lipstick on Your Collar* the other week (Channel 4), the curvaceous cinema usherette Sylvia was so affronted by our hero's intellectual chat-up line at the local Palais ("There is a redemptive power in love," he said, "Which transforms the –") that she yelled out loud and smacked him on the gob, thereby starting a small *commotion*. "*Don't you talk to me* like that!" she said. And you could see her point. A girl goes down the dance hall on a Sunday morning, she doesn't expect to hear smut of that complexion.

The trouble with "segue", however, is that it sometimes comes in handy. On last Sunday's *British Academy Awards* (BBC1), for example, a small and overly cheerful orchestra segued like mad through the usual skin-crawling awards-ceremony routine of blasting out 12 bars of this, 12 bars of that (TV theme, signature tune, film music), all turned on a sixpence, and all jerking to a halt mid-phrase when required. But were these strictly segues? I wasn't sure. At the midpoint of the evening, when dancers performed in spangly frocks to a cheap medley of last year's finest movie scores, I *didn't stick around* for the segues but legged it to the kitchen instead and made a cup of tea.

Arguably, however, the spangle-frocked dancers were the best bit of the awards, if it was entertainment you were after. Presentation was lacklustre (Griff Rhys Jones underperforming in London, Mel Smith overcompensating in Los Angeles); the clips from films and programmes were irritatingly slow *to appear; not many people seemed* excited to win: and acceptance speeches were miserably short and scarce because winners were given an abrupt bum's rush by a scary thin woman in a strapless frock whenever they looked tempted to lunge for the microphone and say a few words.

Who was this woman, anyway? What happened to the people she bundled backstage? Were they ever *seen again? It occurred to me that* perhaps there is only one Bafta statuette, and it was this woman's job to wrest it from the winners behind the scenes ("Let go!" "Ooft" "I'm warning you!" "Get off!"), and then re-emerge, supremely unruffled, to replace it on its lectern in time for the next announcement.

Since the long shapely arm of her jurisdiction did not extend to the Hollywood link-up, the lucky American winners were able to *make impromptu speeches* mentioning Salman Rushdie. But at the London end, with a schedule to keep, it got perilously close to disaster when even Sir Richard Attenborough appeared to be having his collar felt by this woman's unmistakable mime of "Move along now, sir; we can't stop here". I gasped. Would Sir Richard, that grand *old Bafta locomotive*, be shunted into a siding? It was a worrying moment, but Sir Richard *stood his ground. One day a BBC* scallywag will release the "Dickie Tapes" of Sir Richard muttering through his stage smile, "Get your hands off me this instant. A speech I've written and a speech I'll make."

Lipstick on Your Collar finishes its six parts tomorrow on Channel 4 — and I suppose that this is a narrative segue, if only I would admit it. The only feature Potter's uneasy 1950s excursion has shared *with the Bafta Awards is that the* musical bits likewise send you scooting off to the kitchen: but luckily for the strain on the national grid, the frequency of the interludes has relaxed considerably as the weeks have passed; as has, thankfully, the drama itself. There are more purely comic moments now ("Don't you talk to me like that!"), more wry authorial hand-of-God intercessions (as when Sylvia's sinister bully of a husband was conveniently bumped off last week in a bizarre accident), and most important of all, more scenes set beyond the four walls of that stultifying War Office, where time *stands still*.

My theory about the failure of the lip-sync musical bits of *Lipstick on Your Collar* is that they were just badly directed. But it didn't help that they issued mainly from the shallow imagination of Private Hopper (Ewan McGregor), whose mental doodlings were of no interest, because we knew nothing about him. I mean, was he really clever enough to translate Russian for Military Intelligence? All he ever did was stare into the middle distance and smirk at visions of a naked woman. *His favourite joke* went "Bum-tit-tit, bum-tit-tit". Is this a man whose innermost fantasies will hold you in *deep thrall*?

But Ewan McGregor was good in the part, and in fact the great all-round success of *Lipstick* is the casting. Since an insistent point of the serial has been that, in the old hierarchical society, nobody had a clue what anyone else was talking about ("What chew mean?" being a common complaint), there has been little ensemble work to speak of, so attention has focused directly on each extraordinary face — on the arch-eyebrowed Louise Germaine (Sylvia), spectacular as a *personification of a living doll*; or pop-eyed Giles Thomas (Frank), indignantly requesting permission *to speak*; or the lascivious Roy Hudd (Harold Atterbow), so hot and damp with desire as to be virtually molten. Most memorable of all, though, is Peter Jeffrey as the deranged, defeated Colonel Bernwood, who expresses all the national shame of Suez in one grieving and incomprehending set of eyes, nose and mouth. Watch it tomorrow: he's terrific.

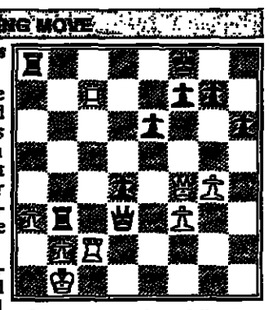
As a final segue, and to the accompaniment of some Potter-inspired change of tune on the soundtrack ("With a Smile and a *Song*", perhaps, played poignantly on a musical saw), I have to say that this is the last of my Saturday TV columns. From Monday, I will be reviewing television on the weekday Arts pages. I would love to make a speech thanking all the people, you know — John, Rebecca, Sue, Jane, Clare, Sally, Les, *they know who they are* — but on the other hand I am scared of being duffed up by the Bafta lady. So, if you don't mind, I'll just wave and cry a lot instead.



Casting more than a cosmetic gloss: Giles Thomas, Roy Hudd and Louise Germaine in Dennis Potter's *Lipstick on Your Collar*

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Almasi — Borgo, Bad Worishofen 1993. Black is threatened with checkmate in one move, and so must act *drastically. Fortunately for* him, he has a mating combination available. Can you see it?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer and the winners will be printed in *The Times* on the following Saturday.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 ...Qd3+. The winners are: B. Weir, Lincoln; C. Scott, Cheadle Hulme, D. Johnston, Stubbington.

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

RECOND
a. Esoteric
b. To put off
c. A billisecond

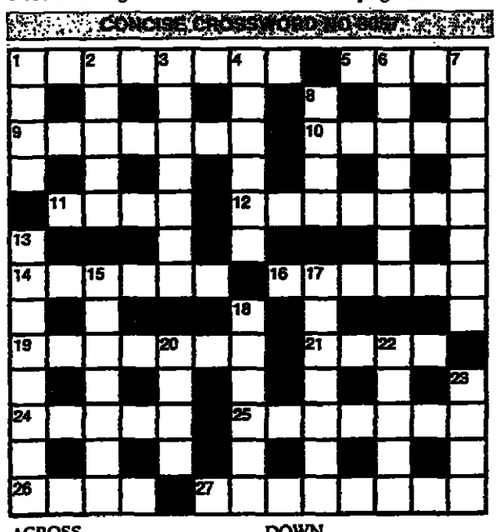
STILB
a. Unit of light
b. To seep or drip
c. A *miscarriage*

MIR
a. An Iranian judge
b. A village community
c. Massachusetts *Institute of* Rumours

FEDAI
a. A *region of South Africa*
b. A zealot or devotee
c. A Welsh expat

Answers on page 15

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3057



ACROSS
1 Family favouritism (8)
5 Curved entrance (4)
9 Bather (7)
10 Severe stomach pain (5)
11 Close hermetically (4)
12 In no place (7)
14 Dutiful reverence (6)
16 Long tiresome writing (6)
19 British Royal house (7)
21 Mechanical repetition (4)
24 Instrument (5)
25 Race grounds (7)
26 *Informer* (4)
27 Long hot spell (8)

DOWN
1 Aircraft front (4)
2 Lions' group (5)
3 Cause effect interval (7)
4 Sudden jump (6)
6 Bring aid (7)
7 Spanish estate (8)
8 Flat-bottomed *lighter* (4)
13 Final confrontation (8)
15 Team controller (7)
17 *Current path* (7)
18 Work nursery (6)
20 Lyric (4)
22 'Mock' *execution opera* (5)
23 Island (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 3056

ACROSS: 1 In camera 7 About 8 Simulated 9 Sag 10 Riot 11 Breast 13 Detail 14 Scares 19 Sadden 20 Afar 21 Hop 23 Aegean Sea 24 Swing 25 Stimulus

DOWN: 1 Insured 2 Comfort 3 Mild 4 Retard 5 Moist 6 Stage 7 Advance 12 Windbag 15 Refusal 16 Spreads 17 Weight 18 Chasm 19 Spoil 22 Calm

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords Books 1 & 2 £5.25 each. Book 3 £4.25. Also The Times Jumbo Crossword Tango (Book 1 cryptic £4.99, Book 2 cryptic £5.99). Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords Books 14 & 15 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to Akum Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Delivery in 8 days. For details of all Times Crossword books and software, call Akum Ltd on (0)1 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CWS Doncaster on (0302) 880 000.

Where conscience finds a home

TV PREVIEW

● **Gimme Shelter**
(Channel 4, from Sunday)

If there is one thing homeless people don't share with the rest of us, it's the chance to watch two-week seasons on the telly covering all aspects of their plight. *Lynne Truss writes.* In the next fortnight, Channel 4 offers a variety of carefully spaced programmes — although sometimes rather late at night — including special documentaries, judicious repeats, a long-awaited re-showing of *Cathy Come Home*, and the searing movie *Salaam Bombay!*. It is a bit strange that Jack Rosenthal's 1985 comedy *The Chain* is included (on Good Friday, too), but perhaps it is presented as a historical document, the idea being that the *property chain is now a feature of the dim* and distant, like Christianity.

Much advance hoo-ha has already attached to Tuesday's so-called game show *Come On Down and Out*, and it's no surprise. Three homeless contestants will ostensibly compete in front of an excited studio audience for their dream star prize — a roof over their heads — and one of their entertaining tasks is to construct a makeshift cardboard shelter in the studio, against the clock. Ho ho. Will the game show host stand over them while they do it, à la Bruce Forsyth; you know, kicking down their shaky efforts, awarding zero out of ten? "Only one person can win!" the advance publicity says, "so two people must face life back on the street if they get the questions wrong!" *Come on Down and Out* clearly *intends* to be one of the fiercest ironies since Swift; but on the other hand it might misfire appallingly. It would certainly mar the whole *Gimme Shelter* project if it doesn't get the tone exactly right.

● **Other notable programmes** next week include, on Monday at 9pm on Channel 4, Nick Danziger retracing the journeys of George Orwell's *Down and Out in Paris and London*. Danziger, you may remember, was the photo-journalist whose video diary from Afghanistan last year, *War, Lies and Videotape*, won a Prix Italia. In this film, Danziger revisits the exact same hostels and shelters Orwell described with such Old Etonian revulsion 60 years ago, and discovers almost exactly the same things, save for the odd new curtain rail here and there.

On Tuesday, ITV has scheduled a *Viewpoint 93* programme (10.40pm) complementing the *Gimme Shelter* season. *Fields Apart* tells the story of the *battle over Lincoln's Inn Fields (behind* the Law Courts), showing how the local office workers threatened Camden council with litigation if it didn't "clean up" the tent city where 200 people were living. Having achieved their objective, however, they now have a nice clean leafy square surrounded by barbed wire that is no longer a public right of way. Some sort of justice there.

GUILTY SECRETS

Barbara Nokes, advertising executive



"Riddled with guilt, I happily settle down for an episode of *Coronation Street whenever I can — which isn't all that* often. As a result, I sometimes lose track of who's doing what to whom and why. Nevertheless, *Coronation Street* is a sort of security blanket. It reminds me of being a child and part of a very loving extended working class family in south London. If I turn down the sound on the northern accents, I could be in any one of several warm and friendly kitchens being made a fuss of by any of several favourite aunties."

● *Barbara Nokes is executive creative director of CME-KHBB*

Humour with an anguished howl

Mark Eitzel insists that he is just telling stories



IT'S all in the lyrics, apparently... "*Well I've been praying a lot lately/Well that's because I no longer have a TV/Just a fluorescent hangover to light my way... Well I'm an expert in all things that nature abhors. I saw your look of disgust when I touched your skin/So I try to figure out what the world needs me for/So I replay the scene again and again...*"

It's all in Mark Eitzel's voice, allegedly, this battered, careworn howl of near death, fissuring and flooding with emotion. Then again, it is, according to the devotees, in the music itself: haunting, *haunted* stabs and strokes of such bitterness and light, broken and battered but still ringing bright. This is American Music Club, where you hand in your duffel coat and your heart at the door and stagger out afterwards, crying.

"This album's OK, I guess," Mark Eitzel says. He's hunched up on a plush blue velvet sofa, looking vaguely gnome-like, vaguely scared. A hundredweight of critical adulation and cheering lies on his shoulders — American Music Club must be the most lauded band on the planet. I've never seen a bad review of them.

"I'm not happy with half the tracks on the album," he says, as if it pains him deeply. "'I've Been A Mess Since You've Been Gone' is OK, I guess."

In case anyone has any doubts, "I've Been A Mess..." is the most beautiful, slow-mo reel through a lover's depression, confession and downfall. It's the shiniest jewel in a veritable Tiffany's of an album.

"All the songs I've been writing recently are more *impersonal. I'm telling stories* now. So people will be listening to a track, thinking, 'Hey, well that tune isn't half bad.' *Sshhluck.*" Eitzel mimes a crocodile closing its jaws. "They get sucked into the story and they can't get out."



PHIL NICHOLLS

Critical darlings: American Music Club have a lot to live up to on their British tour

But how many of these vignettes of desolation and abandonment are taken from Eitzel's own life? "Hula Maiden", *from 1989's frightening United Kingdom* LP, is based around a holiday in Hawaii Eitzel took the day after his father died. "*I took my big free ride:/I went out to the barbecue/and I got smashed on the beach/yeah well, I was thinking about you.*" Eitzel seems to be able to bleed incidents out of his life in order to feed the songs.

"Naah, that's not true. By the time the track gets scored into the CD or however in hell they make those things," he says. "I've pretty much erased myself from the song. There's very little of me left in those things you listen to at home."

It doesn't feel that way. Eitzel has a way of singing *amazingly personal lyrics in a* very dispassionate way. But, at the same time, he can recount an arm's length account of something horrifying with amazing tenderness.

And his solo gigs... "Yeah well, I did them for the money," he grins. "My manager phones: 'Mark, do you want free plane tickets to England and an envelope of *cash? And, oh yeah, you have* to sing to some people.' What can I say? I'm easily bought."

Eitzel's solo gigs are hushed tear-fests for the word-perfect and the soon-to-be converted. The last one, in February, had hardened music-press photographers putting down their cameras because the viewfinders were mysteriously clogged with salt water.

"Yeah, but this is another thing," Mark says. "Journalists really buy into this whole sad thing, this whole 'Mark is damaged' routine. Nearly everybody who has interviewed me wants to help me, give me some kind of therapy. It's not all this wounded songwriter, you know? There's a lot of hope and desire in my songs. And humour. Perhaps people don't see the joke.

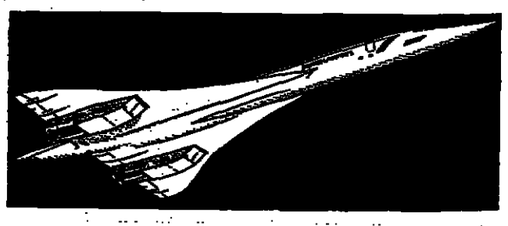
"It takes a really broken, messed-about person to have a sense of humour," he continues. "Because that's when you need it — when things are so bad, so low that the only option is to laugh at something. *I laugh at myself a lot.*"

There is no easy way to finish an American Music *Club interview. What is there* to say? Mark says: "Buy the record." I say: "Buy *all* the records. *Drop me a postcard if* you regret it."

I expect no mail this week.

CAITLIN MORAN

● Mercury *is out now on Virgin Records. American Music Club's back catalogue is utterly unimpeachable* — United Kingdom/California *(double CD)*, Everclear *and the live, acoustic* Songs of Love, *American Music Club are on tour: Edinburgh venue, March 28; Bristol Fleece and Firkin, March 31; Birmingham Edwards, April 1; Sheffield Leadmill, April 3; London Astoria, April 4.*



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